

Hafa Adai!

Four years after settlement, NMI pays parents of infant who died in delivery. **PAGE 3**
Thief spoils 3 boys' fishing fun at Tank Beach. **Page 6**

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SHEFA mulls waiving GPA rule

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A Saipan scholarship program that is funded by the license fees of a dwindling number of poker arcades wants to make it easier for first-time applicants to go to college.

Talks to eliminate the grade point average requirement of first-time applicants for the Saipan Higher Edu-

cation Financial Assistance program became a focal point of discussion

See SHEFA on Page 4

Stolen car found after nearly 4 months

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 44-year-old man was arrested on Friday on the beach side of Lower Base for allegedly renting a car last Aug. 5 and never returning it.

Gregorio Omar Lieto was arrested on charges of theft of vehicle

» **Suspect arrested at beach side with stolen car; admits plan to use vehicle until he gets caught**

and criminal mischief.

Police said Lieto admitted renting

the car for a day, that he never returned it, and had planned to use it until he gets caught.

The owner of U Save Car Rental called the police himself on Friday at noon after finding the stolen black Toyota Corolla with license plate ACR-766 parked at the beach

See STOLEN on Page 4



Christmas Village unveiled to public

By MICHAEL T SANTOS
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REPORTER

Christmas in the Marianas got off to a merry start when the first ever Christmas Village, hosted by the Lady Diann Foundation, was unveiled to the public last Sunday evening.

Twinkling lights were turned on Sunday and will be turned on every night in anticipation of the holiday season. The lights will shut off at 9pm on weekdays and at 11pm on weekends.

After several trial runs, the village was officially lit Sunday by first lady Diann Torres and Miss Marianas Peachy Quitugua and the public visited the different Christmas-themed houses made by different agencies across the island. Voting for the People's Choice Award also began.

See CHRISTMAS on Page 4

People gather around an illuminated Christmas-themed house during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

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MICHAEL T SANTOS

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NATION

President-elect Donald Trump claims that "millions" voted illegally in the election.

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A nine-story portrait of Fidel Castro has joined the towering images of fallen guerrillas.

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FOCUS

More than 4 million children have lost at least one parent in Congo in two decades.

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Local

Groups split on marijuana legalization

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Newly formed group Sensible CNMI and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce have

expressed different views on Senate Bill 19-106, a proposed Act to Regulate Marijuana in the CNMI, which aims for personal use and decriminalization of the drug that is also

used for medicinal purposes.

While Sensible CNMI has thrown its support for the bill of Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), the chamber did a U-turn after at first backing

the measure.

The Chamber, last September, withdrew its support of Igisomar's bill after backing the measure in August. In an email to the media, the Cham-

ber said they decided to pull its support for the bill based on some provisions that are unsatisfactory.

"After further review of the legislation, it was determined by the board of directors that provisions in this legislation are not to our

satisfaction. We retract our prior letter on Senate Bill 19-106," the Chamber stated.

Prior to withdrawing its support, the Chamber's Governmental Relations Committee believes "the intent of SB 19-106 is to put the issue on

See GROUPS on Page 5

Death by Chocolate draws wide support

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
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REPORTER

Participants of the CNMI Salvation Army's first ever Death by Chocolate fundraiser at the Hyatt Regency Saipan last Saturday should expect a toothache real soon.

The event, lasting from 11am to 4pm, entertained its guests with a silent auction, live performances by several bands, competitions among attendees, and raffle prizes.

All proceeds for Death by Chocolate will be used to help fund the Salvation Army's soup kitchen and food bank.

"We had a good turnout. A lot of folks showed up and sold quite a few tickets at the door and through our Facebook page. There were also wonderful donors who gave a lot of prizes," said Salvation Army pastor Wayne Gillespie.

"We're just happy and grateful to those who bought tickets or donated to the event."

Several vendors were present on site, such as the Stamp and Coin Club and Bella's Box, as well as a guest appearance by first lady Diann Torres to inaugurate the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Season by making the first donation.

Riya Nathrani, a volunteer, said, "I think this event is the first in the CNMI. I think it's a great way to bring the community together, and everyone loves chocolate so it's a great way to make people collaborate and mingle with one another. There's also a lot of raffle prizes donated by different companies that I think entices people to come and take their chances while helping a great cause."

Brandon Nyugen, an attendee, said, "I really enjoy choco-

late! The fact that there's a buffet for them was something I didn't think I would enjoy as much as I did. Plus there were competitions that made things seem a bit more lively."

Gillespie thanked all its donors, volunteers, and guests for the event, saying the Salvation Army hope to host another one next year.

"If we do another one next year, we hope it will be held in a bigger venue. We would also like to add new and interesting things for the guests to enjoy," he said.

Contestants of a cupcake decorating competition design their designated cupcakes during the Death by Chocolate fundraiser held by the CNMI Salvation Army at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on Nov. 26.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



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By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Four years after reaching a \$35,000 settlement, the CNMI government finally paid a couple who filed a wrongful death lawsuit over the death of their baby during delivery at the Commonwealth Health Center.

The CNMI government also paid Gorjonny Camacho, who holds a \$10,000 judgment against the government in connection with his medical malpractice lawsuit against CHC.

Michael W. Dotts, counsel for couple Jotonia B. Aguon and Timothy Cruz, and Camacho, informed the Superior Court yesterday about the judgments being satisfied.

Dotts did not elaborate.

Dotts' notification about the payments came a week before the Dec. 5, 2016, hearing for Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho to decide whether the 2016 Budget Act is unconstitutional for not listing court judgments owed by the government.

Dotts, as counsel for Aguon and Cruz, and then-assistant attorney general Joey P. San Nicolas, as counsel for the government, signed an agreement for an entry of \$35,000 judgment against the Commonwealth on July 17, 2013.

In July 2013, a \$10,000 judgment was entered in favor of Camacho against the CNMI. To collect payment on the

Four years after settlement, NMI pays parents of infant who died in delivery

two judgments that were entered in 2013, Dotts filed motions for orders in aid of judgment. He asked the court to declare the 2016 Budget Act unconstitutional. The two cases were consolidated.

According to the couple's wrongful death lawsuit, Aguon was admitted to the Obstetric-Gynecology ward of CHC for a normal delivery on Nov. 10, 2010. Aguon was on her 38th week of pregnancy. She was assisted by a midwife.

After several hours, there was an increase in the child's heart rate. Despite being alive in the womb, the child was

later born dead.

Dotts alleged that the government was negligent in the staffing at CHC and that the doctor was negligent in failing to timely recognize fetal distress and failing to perform a C-section.

In Camacho's medical malpractice lawsuit filed in 2012, Camacho went to CHC for an appendectomy, but the surgeon instead allegedly used permanent stitches instead of dissolving stitches.

As a result, a skin nodule developed on the site of the surgery, causing him pain and forcing him to undergo a second surgery to remove the skin nodule and remove his stitches.

Military: Airman who went swimming off Guam presumed dead

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam (AP)—Officials at Andersen Air Force Base say an airman who went missing days ago during a nighttime swim off a Guam beach is presumed dead.

The base's 36th Wing said in a news release Sunday that search-and-recovery efforts that

began after Master Sgt. Greg Ramos was reported missing around midnight Nov. 21 have produced no signs of him.

Authorities were alerted to a missing swimmer off Tarague Beach. They continued their search through Saturday.

Brig. Gen. Douglas Cox, the 36th Wing commander, said

the guard is "extremely saddened" and he offered prayers for Ramos' family and friends. He cautioned that while "the waters off Guam are beautiful and inviting," they can be dangerous.

Tarague, Serena and Scout beaches on the base were closed until further notice.



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'CW1 issue will stall NMI's economic gains'

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Saipan) said the ongoing issue with the CNMI-Only Transitional Non-immigrant Workers Visa program would stall the economic development the Commonwealth has been experiencing, particularly on Saipan. Economic activity on Saipan increased in the last two years while several investors are also looking at starting projects on Tinian. Rota officials have also mentioned that some businesses are looking at building a hotel resort on the CNMI's southernmost island.

The CNMI would need a huge number of laborers

once construction of several establishments that are being developed go full blast and additional workers once these hotels begin their operations.

And Cruz said the CW1 issue is among the obstacles that the CNMI is facing. "Like I said, time is very limited. The worst thing is going to happen. We have a lot of obstacles, especially the CW issue."

"But we can't tell the [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services] to do what we want. To tell them what we want to do is not our jurisdiction. All we could do is ask for some consideration. That's why I'm hoping USCIS would consider extending the CW program," added Cruz.

He said it would be impossible for Tinian and Rota to also experience economic gains if there's a shortage of workers. Alter City Group and Bridge Investment Group are two investors that have hotel projects on the island. BIG is also in the final stages of the port facility it built near Kammer Beach on Tinian.

"We could not sustain this kind of development if we could not get workers. It would be impossible. Those who would want to go to Tinian and Rota will first look at the amount they are going to be offered and if they would accept it then they will look for a place where they could stay," said Cruz.

He added the community would benefit from workers since they are going to spend what they earn in buying goods and other basic needs.

"That's why I'm hoping USCIS and the federal government would give us the consideration of extending the CW1 program and as well as increasing the numerical limit to 18,000," said Cruz, who chairs the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations. He is also a ranking member of the Senate committees on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies, and Resources, Economic Development and Programs.

Government assistance

He said all agencies concerned should assist investors to expedite their projects "so these developers could move forward with the projects. The CNMI would benefit from these developments, not only Tinian."

He said he spoke with BIG chief executive officer Philip Mendiola-Long before the election where they talked about the projects that they are planning on Tinian. "It will really be

great for Tinian if the ferry comes back. I saw some of Bridge Investment's perspective on Tinian and one of which is the ferry dock."

Cruz said the ferry dock would be next to Kammer Beach where the former stevedoring warehouse was once located.

He added the Tinian Casino and Gaming Commission would know more about BIG's plans on Tinian after the company made a presentation about their projects for the island. ACG is also moving forward with their hotel in Puntan Diablo.

Worker settles suit over crane accident at BSI site

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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REPORTER

A construction company has settled the lawsuit filed by its former construction worker who was injured during a crane accident at the Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s project site in Garapan.

With the settlement, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed yesterday

with prejudice Anwar Hossain's lawsuit against MCC International Saipan Ltd. Co. That means Hossain can no longer re-file the case.

Manglona said the court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the confidential settlement, release and indemnification agreement signed by each of the parties to the suit.

The judge said each party will bear their own costs and fees.

Hossain filed the lawsuit

over the crane accident that caused a long and heavy pipe to roll, crushing his left leg at the Best Sunshine's project site in Garapan last February.

Hossain, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, sued MCC for allegedly violating the Workmen's Compensation Law and for negligence.

Hossain demanded \$200,000 in lost wages and medical expenses, and \$300,000 in non-economic damages, plus punitive damages.

He added the community

In its answer to the lawsuit, MCC, through Michael W. Dotts, denied fault over the crane accident. Dotts asserted that any injuries suffered or damages sustained by Hossain were caused solely by the latter's own negligence.

Dotts said the claims are precluded or limited by the Worker's Compensation laws and that plaintiff failed to exhaust administrative remedies.

LJ Castro's house is burglarized

The Finasisu house of public information specialist Luis John Castro was burglarized yesterday.

Castro, who is also a Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council member-elect, told *Saipan Tribune* that the bedroom of his one-story house was ransacked. He believes the burglary happened between the time

he left yesterday morning for work and before he came back home at 2pm.

Castro he is hoping that his items will be recovered and the burglar or burglars will be arrested. He estimated the items stolen at more than \$2,000.

Stolen were a 32-inch Carpo flat-screen TV, a Casio G-Shock watch, a bottle

of Cool Waters cologne, a Blu Vivo selfie smartphone, a Sony DVD player, an iPad mini, and handmade jewelry.

Castro said the handmade jewelry includes a necklace made from spondylus, a sinahi bracelet, and the sinahi that he wears almost all the time.

Castro expressed anger as some of the stolen items were either Valentine's Day or Christmas presents.

Castro said he and his

child were not feeling well and when they got home at 2pm, everything was a mess.

Police responded and processed the scene.

Castro posted on his Facebook account some of the photos of the items stolen and the damage the perpetrator/s left behind.

"This is too much and it has to stop!" said Castro in his Facebook account. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

SHEFA

From Page 1

during the SHEFA board meeting last week.

It was not clarified at the meeting whether the high school GPA of first-time applicants or previous semester GPA of first-time applicants is to be overlooked.

SHEFA board chair Oscar Babauta took the lead role in pushing for the abolition of the high school GPA requirement for incoming college freshmen that are first-time SHEFA applicants.

Babauta questioned whether the high school GPA of SHEFA applicants is relevant to a students' pursuit of college.

"[We] seriously need to openly discuss the GPA for new applicants [of the SHEFA program]. Our prior denials of applicants are mainly because

of high school GPA. I wanted to find out if we can further discuss this and deliberate more to come out with a solution and hopefully amend our rules and regulations," said Babauta.

Babauta pointed out that denying SHEFA scholarship to students that strive to attain good grades in college but have slightly slacked off during high school sets a bad example.

"A student applies for the fall semester, having gotten fresh out of high school in June of the same year. We can consider eliminating this requirement so that if he/she wanted to continue for the spring semester, we can follow through with his/her fall GPA," Babauta told the board. "What I'm trying to say is the possibility of considering the elimination of the GPA for the first semester after high school or the first

application of the students."

SHEFA vice chair Juan Tenorio shared that SHEFA did not exist during his time.

"I'm going to use me as an example," said Tenorio. "I bombed in high school. I had bad grades in high school. I admit it myself. But then, there was no SHEFA that time, and I didn't receive a CNMI Scholarship after the first semester. I didn't get it in the first semester but I got it in the next. I'm just using myself as an example," he said.

Babauta told board members that he merely wants to raise the issue for their discussion.

"You can tell from the individual that they really want to pursue post-secondary education by finding a way for appealing and re-review of their application. I don't know if some of the board members have been approached," he said. "I took it

upon myself to see if we can have an open discussion on this matter and try to adopt a set of policies that would eliminate the requirement of the high school GPA for the first semester."

Board member Ursula Li-foi-foi-Aldan questioned how students are to be deemed eligible for SHEFA support if the GPA requirement is waived.

After more scuffling, Tenorio spoke up, saying the goal of SHEFA is to "provide assistance to whoever wants to further their education."

"Let's look at all the possibilities that we have. Everything has to go through the board to decide on what to do for the program. The CNMI Scholarship Office is already doing a no-GPA entry. If you [fail] after the first semester then I'm sorry, you're not going to receive any more," he said, a few moments before the meeting was adjourned.

STOLEN

From Page 1

side of Lower Base.

Lieto's bail was set yesterday at \$10,000 cash; preliminary hearing will be on Dec. 7 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Lieto. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police said that Lieto rented the Toyota Corolla from U Save Car Rental in Garapan for a \$100 security deposit and \$50 for a one-day rental fee last Aug. 5.

Traffic investigator Norris Kwon stated in his report that Lieto did not return the car, prompting the owner of U Save Car Rental to file a theft of service complaint with the Department of Public Safety against Lieto last Aug. 16.

It was police officer Jason Tarkong who entertained the complaint.

A U Save Car Rental agent called the cell phone number listed by Lieto on the rental agreement several times, but no one answered.

On Friday, the U Save Car Rental owner called DPS at 12:35pm and reported that he found the car at the beach side of Lower Base.

Kwon immediately responded to the area and found the car, operated by Lieto. Kwon said that Lieto confessed at the location.

The car was found to have a broken right side view mirror, missing rear bumper cover, and damaged left side tail lamp and front bumper cover.

Kwon said Lieto admitted damaging the rear bumper cover during a family gathering when a family member hit the car with a four-wheeler. Lieto was then arrested.

CHRISTMAS

From Page 1

Geri Dela Cruz, executive director for Imperial Pacific International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team, said, "Everyone put so much effort into it [house making]. I think every agency here takes pride in the work that they've done and in my books, everyone is a winner. There was so much work done and the People's Choice Award really is just icing on the cake."

As with the lighting of the village, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will also present Christmas movies on a pop-up screen for the public every Friday.

"It [village] really came about with first lady Diann Torres and her planning group thinking about a central location for people to come with their kids during the night to just really enjoy the spirit of Christmas. So what better way to do things other than make it so that everyone, as well as private and public agencies, can participate," said Dela Cruz. "For the first day...I consider it a success. It really is something the public should

look forward to."

Imperial Pacific International, Ltd. took care of the logistics for the event. Some of the work they put into the event consisted of building fences that served as boundaries between houses, built the large bridge in one half of the village, as well as participated and built a booth of their own.

Torres said, "During the same time last year, Christmas season 2015, every member of our community was struggling to recover from a devastating super typhoon. Homes were toppled, a number of businesses were forced to shut down, and commodities were scarce. Moreover, we lost our beloved late governor Inos. Last year's Christmas season was a trying season for us all. Although we are not a 100 percent, we hope to defuse the challenges that get in our way of celebrating our favorite time of the year."

Joseph Ray, an attendee of the event, said, "It really feels like Christmas when you come inside the village. Instead of just lighting a tree that everyone can see, they decided to create a bunch of houses that the people can participate in and that's nice."

Delta launches exclusive Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket for some Japan customers



Delta Air Lines extends its premium collection of in-flight amenities with a newly designed Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket for the business class cabin between Narita and Guam, Saipan and Palau flights, beginning November 2016.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delta Air Lines has extended its premium collection of in-flight amenities with a newly designed Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket for the business class cabin between Narita and Guam, Saipan and Palau flights, beginning November 2016. This is an extension of the airline's existing partnership with Westin Hotels & Resorts, part of Marriott International, Inc.



"We are passionate about making sure that every detail, down to the blankets, enhances the experience on board for customers," said Allison Ausband, Delta's senior vice president of in-flight service. "Delta's commitment to customer comfort is reflected through our partnership with Westin Hotel & Resorts. Our two travel brands are perfectly suited to collaborate together to help customers get to their desired destination in the most comfortable way."

Based on research and feedback collected directly from customers, Delta's in-flight

service and brand team, together with Westin's brand team, developed the Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket, which is inspired by signature design elements of the iconic Westin Heavenly Bed. The muted grey hue blanket exudes a relaxing and calming ambiance, while simultaneously paying tribute to the two brands.

"Westin's distinctive approach to wellbeing continues to resonate around the world, and it's powerful to have a partner like Delta that equally values innovating and enhancing the sleep experience for travelers," said Brian Povinelli, global brand leader, Westin Hotels & Resorts. "From sleep-enhancing in-room amenities and slumber promoting dining options at our hotels to the expansion of our Westin Heavenly in-flight program with Delta, we know nothing restores your mind and body like restful sleep."

Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket will be also offered for first class customers in the

U.S. domestic flights. In addition to Business and First Class cabin offerings, Delta's main cabin blankets have also been upgraded, featuring woven fabric in a sensory blue hue. Each blanket has been designed with durable long-lasting materials that decrease

product replacement.

The Westin Heavenly in-flight blanket launch is a part of a larger, ongoing partnership between the renowned wellbeing brand and Delta to continually improve the in-flight sleep experience. Customers in select cabins currently enjoy Westin Heavenly in-flight bedding—the coveted, luxurious white comforters and hypoallergenic pillows—along

with Delta-branded sleepwear, noise-cancelling headsets and TUMI amenity kits featuring Kiehl's Since 1851 products.

Additionally, Westin's luxurious Heavenly Bath towels are also featured in Delta Sky Clubs. (Delta)

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GROUPS

From Page 2

the ballot for the people to decide [and] the democratic process should be upheld, especially in a matter as potentially controversial as this."

The committee, in its letter of support, added that if the bill becomes law, it would have a positive effect on the CNMI's economy as additional tax revenue, much like in Oregon, Washington, and Colorado.

On the other hand, Sensible CNMI co-founder Lawrence Duponcheel said they see a lot of positive effects in regulating and taxing marijuana use in the Commonwealth. "Support for approving the responsible adult use of marijuana continues to grow as more and more states experience the overwhelmingly positive benefits of regulating and taxing marijuana."

"[This] include ensuring that medical patients have

legal protection and access to their medicine, reductions in youth marijuana usage rates, as much as a 24-percent reduction in accidental overdoses by prescription medications, reductions in government spending, and substantial increases in government revenues."

Duponcheel said they would continue to work with various sectors of the community to improve SB 19-106. "[We] will continue to work with local leaders, professionals, and advocacy groups to strengthen and improve the Commonwealth Marijuana Regulation Act...with the goal of reintroducing the proposed legislation as a legislatively-referred ballot measure that aims to allow the CNMI voters to consider the bill in the 2018 election. The proposed bill would legalize, regulate, and tax marijuana for adults 21 and older for medical, personal, and industrial purposes."

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Thief spoils 3 boys' fishing fun at Tank Beach

A thief spoiled three boys' fishing fun at Tank Beach in Kagman Saturday morning when he stole their two rods and poles, all worth \$800.

Saipan Tribune learned that the boys, all friends and ages 14 years old, chased the suspect on their bicycles but he managed to escape aboard a blue sedan, possibly with license plate ACU-574.

The boys described the suspect as a resident, approximately 60 years old, with dark complexion, and was wearing a red pinkish polo shirt. The boys said the suspect was with a woman who was carrying an infant. The stolen items were two fishing poles with wheels—a Shimano wheel with fiberglass pole and a Penn wheel with a stick pole. The gear is valued at \$400 each.

Saipan Tribune gathered that the boys had gone to Tank Beach on their bicycles. As they were fishing, one later left to get more bait from a store.

The two other friends left their fishing gear under a bush and left to catch up with their friend. After a few minutes, the three boys proceeded to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of three bicycle-riding boys takes a photo of this fleeing sedan driven by a man, described as a 60-year-old resident, who stole the boys' fishing rods worth \$800 at Tank Beach in Kagman on Saturday morning. The suspect was with a woman who was carrying an infant.

the beach and saw the suspect taking their rods and poles from the bush. The suspect was with a woman in white

shirt holding a baby. The suspect got on his car and exited through the main entrance of the beach without the woman

and the baby.

The bicycle-riding boys chased the suspect's car. After two minutes, the suspect drove back to pick up the woman and her baby.

The car then left and the boys chased them on bikes again.

One of the boys managed

to get photos of the vehicle as it was speeding away. The boys then reported the matter to Kagman police substation. Polic scoured the Kagman area but could not find the car.

When the incident happened, a vendor selling coconut and apigigi at the main

entrance of Tank Beach was still not there. When the vendor started operating at Tank Beach a few months ago, burglars stopped victimizing tourists and locals in that area, some Kagman residents told *Saipan Tribune*. (**Ferdie de la Torre**)

Finance strengthening electronic data processing division

The Department of Finance is strengthening its electronic data processing division, which maintains the CNMI Tax System, Election Commission Registration System and JD Edwards Financial Management System.

According to Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, the division provides government departments connectivity to the server, technical support, printing services, programming support for multiple systems, and all upgrades and in addition to connectivity to the JD Edwards for other government offices.

"EDP has also been working with CHCC to combine our limited resources and keep operational costs down for report development and

technology related issues that impact collections. With this collaboration, it is our hope that the revenue of the hospital will improve and will then be able to better sustain itself," Larson said.

Currently, EDP is working on an online payment system in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and other agencies to allow online tax payments and other services electronically.

"As part of strengthening EDP, the Laserfiche Rio software for records management to document routing, electronic forms and digital signatures has been installed and is functional. Staff certification has been ongoing to maintain the project which will not only increase workforce capacity but

reduce reliance on consultants for greater cost savings in the government," Larson said.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said that EDP has taken on a significant project of developing a paperless system for the Commonwealth.

"I commend EDP for moving forward with a system where not only are data and documents stored electronically, but documents requiring signatures are routed electronically to increase government efficiency while reducing document storage issues that have become burdensome for government departments. This will better serve the Commonwealth to improve public services in this digital age," Torres said. (**Office of the Governor**)



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CNMI Judiciary conducts strategic planning conference

The Commonwealth Judiciary conducted a two-day conference on strategic planning last week with the goal of creating a roadmap to improve the justice system. More than 90 percent of the court staff from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, along with many community stakeholders, spent Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the Judiciary and began to plan how to best serve the CNMI over the next decade.

Conference topics included access to justice, language access policies, decision time standards, bench-bar relations, community outreach, public trust and confidence, court leadership, problem solving

courts, customer service, and court policies. Participants discussed the strengths and weaknesses of current policies and practices, and considered opportunities for improvement. The results of the discussions will be used to formulate a 10-year strategic plan for the Judiciary.

This is the first time since 2007 that the Judiciary held a strategic planning conference. Members of the judiciary staff served as facilitators for the discussions. Justice Perry B. Inos trained the facilitators to guide discussions on selected topics in order to assess the positives and negatives of current practices and policies, and develop constructive suggestions to improve court prac-

tices in the future.

"I am proud of our facilitators' performance," said Inos. "Participants in the breakout sessions engaged in focused discussions developing positive plans for the Judiciary's future."

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja explained that "the conference has provided the Judiciary and its stakeholders with an important opportunity to discuss and shape the direction of the Judiciary for years to come."

Along with members of the court staff, community members and stakeholders joined the discussions, including acting governor Victor B. Hocog, Senate Vice President Arnold I. Palacios, Speaker Ralph S. Demapan, bishop Ryan P. Jimenez,

Attorney General Ed Manibusan and deputy attorney general Lillian A. Tenorio, Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, and Office of Management and Budget special assistant Virginia C. Villagomez.

Also participating were representatives from the Northern Marianas Bar Association, Micronesian Legal Services Corp., Northern Marianas College, Public School System, Chamber of Commerce, Department of Public Lands, Division of Youth Services, Ayuda Network, Commonwealth Health Corp., Community Guidance Center, and the Judiciary Historical Society.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro emphasized the importance of the

information and input of the community.

"As we paddle the Judiciary canoe into the uncharted waters of tomorrow, our government will only make meaningful progress if all three branches of government and our communities work together and paddle the canoe in the same direction," he said. "This conference sets the course and ensures that every voice is heard as we continue our quest to dispense justice in a timely fashion and deliver high quality judicial services on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, notwithstanding the water that separates our islands."

For further information contact Jim Stowell at 236-9805. (NMIJudiciary)

Family grief support group to meet on Thursday

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting this Thursday, Dec. 1, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPA-SI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.


For more information, e-mail tcfsaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821) or Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. (TCF)




GIVING THANKS!

Acting Saipan mayor Antonia Tudela celebrates Thanksgiving last Nov. 23, at the Saipan Mayor's Office with a feast with the staff of the Saipan Mayor's Office, Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance board members, and more.

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Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Frances A. Castro
Director

PUBLIC NOTICE


(AMENDMENT)

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resource Management (DCRM) is currently updating regulations found in NMIAC 15-10. Proposed changes are tracked in "track changes" and is available online at: <http://ow.ly/on8x305sbEy>

The public is invited to attend this important meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2016, 3:30PM at the Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria in San Jose, Tinian. The purpose of this meeting is to review substantive changes, answer questions, and solicit comments.

Comments on proposed changes can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resource Management at erinderrington@becq.gov.mp or as hard copies to the Permit Section. Comments must be received by January 12, 2017 in order for them to be incorporated into a final draft of updated revisions. Another notice and comment period will be announced when final changes are proposed for adoption. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resource Management
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Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Frances A. Castro
Director

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS


Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resource Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 01, 2016 at 10:00 AM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room.

AGENDA


- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
 - c) Adoption of Agenda
 - d) Adoption of November 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- II. **PERMIT APPLICATION**
 1. SUGAR KING HOTEL & DORMITORIES
CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2017-X-010
 - a. Project Introduction
 - b. Discussion by CRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
 - c. Permit Application Status
- III. **OTHER MATTERS**
- IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ **FRANCES A. CASTRO**
DCRM Director



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE



Marpi Point Field Feasibility Study

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to attend a public meeting on the date, time, and location stated below during which Marpi Point Field feasibility study (FS) results will be presented. The FS was performed in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) to identify remedial alternatives for the site that provide various levels of protection from munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) and munitions constituents (MC) hazards and risk thereat, and to screen, evaluate, and compare these alternatives for effectiveness, cost, and implementability. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representatives will be available during the meeting to answer your questions concerning DERP-FUDS and elements of the Marpi Point Field FS.

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 06, 2016
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Meeting Location: American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater

For more information about the upcoming Marpi Point Field FS meeting, please contact Helene Takemoto, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District Project Manager at:

Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District
Programs and Project Management Division
Environmental Programs Branch
Building 230
Attn: CEPOH-PP-E (Helene Takemoto)
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440
Telephone: 808.835.4088
Fax: 808.835.4129
E-Mail: FUDS-POH@usace.army.mil

Perry Harris, Policare join MTEC board

The Marianas Tourism Education Council and Marianas Visitors Authority have gained two new industry representatives as board members this school year.

Catherine Perry Harris, owner of Integrity Communications, and Glenn Policare, director of Operations of Kanoa Resort, were both recently nominated and approved to join the board of the educational organization.

Perry Harris has been involved in local media and public relations for over two decades, including spearheading public relations and making school presentations with MTEC for the last several years.

"Teaching the students about tourism along with chairwoman Vicky Benavente and the Marianas Visitors Authority has been very rewarding, especially as we've see the steady growth of knowledge among the students through the years. The best part is when their faces light up with understanding and enthusiasm for the subject," said Perry Harris. "I'm grateful to now join the board and look forward to continu-

ing to support its objective, teaching how 'tourism is everybody's business.'"

Policare has many years of experience in the hotel industry, most recently as

the SEA director at Pacific Islands Club Saipan and now as the director of Operations at Kanoa Resort.

"I am so excited to start working with the board," said

Policare. "I have learned so much in my new position here. With that knowledge and the opportunity to work with such a great team, I am excited for the future of the CNMI.

"I have already had a chance to speak to some of the MY WAVE students and have met with the [advisers] as well," he added. "There is so much interest in the op-

portunities in hospitality and tourism. It is our job to make sure these kids are steered in the right direction with the proper tools, training and education." (MTEC)

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Math & English Placement Dates
Nov. 29, 2016
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Dec. 19, 21, 22, 2016
9:30am & 1:30pm
Jan. 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 2017
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Orientation for New Students
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Opinion

Hafa Adair Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

Damage done, Fidel Castro was irrelevant long before he died

By the time his death at 90 was announced late Friday, Fidel Castro had become what he most feared during a prolonged and dramatic life—an irrelevancy, a living museum piece trotted out for ceremonial occasions, but no longer the man in charge of Cuba's destiny. He was the living embodiment of the Cuban Revolution, to be seen and applauded in public functions, but real power had passed to his brother Raul and others in the inner circle.

Well before Castro left the scene, the revolution he created was itself long since dead, an empty slogan few could believe in. Castro himself had become a pathetic, shuffling figure who outlived his own era while Cuba began to take the first steps toward a transition that its once fierce leader swore would never take place.

His great triumph was merely to have survived for so long, to have outlived so many adversaries. Nearly from the start, Castro made it his mission to challenge the might of the United States, a role he relished. He managed to confront and bedevil 11 American presidents—one-fourth of all American chief executives—while deftly avoiding the kind of strategic mistake that would provoke a military strike against him.

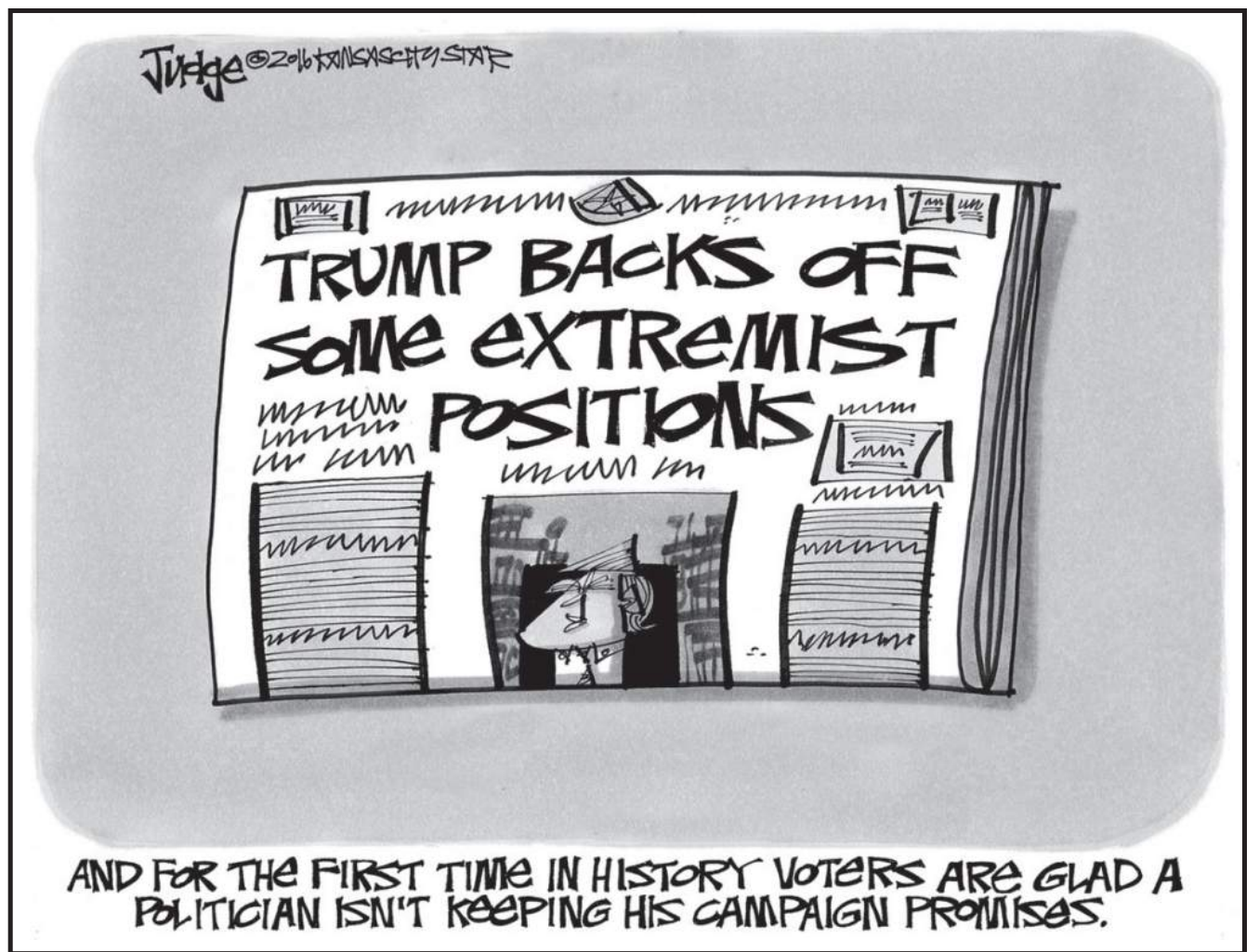
All the while, he commanded public attention. He put Latin America on the map in a way that no one else ever had, becoming a major actor on the world stage during all or parts of seven eventful decades. From the moment he burst onto the scene with a dramatic if failed attack on the Moncada Barracks on July 26, 1953, to his last public appearance, he was a significant news figure. His pronouncements and actions were pored over by contemporaries on every continent.

Unceasing defiance of the American Colossus made Castro a hero to millions, including many who did not otherwise share his left-wing politics. He was the most influential figure of the 20th century in Latin America, the lion whose roar gave voice to the resentment and grievances, real and imagined, that accumulated over decades as the United States rose to become the dominant force in the hemisphere. At the height of his power in the 1970s, his admirers in the Third World—disregarding his status as a Soviet pawn—chose him to lead the Non-Aligned Movement.

But all of his prominence and power came at a terrible cost to the Cuban people, and therein lies his most lasting, tragic and unforgivable legacy.

The history of Latin America is replete with the names of dictators who ruled by fear and violence, including some of Castro's contemporaries, from Alfredo Stroessner in Paraguay to Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic. But Fidel Castro outdid them all because his regime was the most oppressive—and most enduring. Petty tyrants like Peru's Alberto Fujimori and Venezuela's Hugo Chavez came and went. Castro endured.

See DAMAGE on Next Page



The importance of a two-war force

Americans have many expectations of their government, but foremost among them is that it will keep them safe. Indeed, in a recent survey, respondents ranked defense as the government's highest priority.

Unfortunately, the just-released third annual edition of The Heritage Foundation's Index of U.S. Military Strength has sobering news for them.

The index provides a benchmark against which to measure the ability of U.S. forces to defend enduring national security interests at home and around the globe.

Each edition assesses the global security environment and U.S. military strength over the past year. Collectively, they indicate an alarming trend. The costs and consequences wrought by years of inadequate defense funding, combined with a high operational pace across the armed services, are seriously compromising our national defense.

The index uses the ability to fight and win two wars nearly simultaneously as a benchmark by which it measures U.S. military strength. This benchmark, first used by the military after the end of the Cold War, serves to deter potential adversaries who might find an opportunity to act while the U.S. is engaged in another conflict.

Based on an exhaustive review of the Department of Defense's own studies and of historic force deployments, the index editors concluded the following measures as necessary to fulfill this ability:

Navy: 350 ships (current level: 272)

Air Force: 1,200 active component fighter aircraft (current level: 1,113)

Army: 50 brigade combat teams current level: 31)

Marine Corps: 36 marine infantry brigades (current level: 23)

Despite serving as the military's standard for decades, the concept of a two-war capable force has recently been criticized as excessive. Heritage believes these critiques are situational, that America's military requirements should be based on America's strategy, interests and the threats—not the current budget situation.

The services and the public agree. According to Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Mark Milley, "The only thing more expensive than deterrence is actually fighting a war, and the only thing more expensive than fighting a war is fighting one and losing one."

The true value of preventative measures, however, is difficult to estimate. The price of comprehensive home insurance may place greater strain on a family budget month-to-month, but it is pocket change to a family that has just watched its house burn to the ground. If you wait until you see the first plume of smoke, it

By **RACHEL ZISSIMOS**
The Heritage Foundation

Rachel Zissimos is a researcher in the Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy at The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org. Information about Heritage's funding may be found at <http://www.heritage.org/about/reports.cfm>.



will always be too little, too late.

The same is true for the military. It takes time, money and commitment to build and maintain a fighting force of the size and strength our country needs.

Having a military of the proper size is just one part of the solution. The military must also be ready with the right numbers of people, training, weapons and supplies. Yet America's military is suffering from shortages in all these areas.

The Air Force is currently short 700 fighter pilots. While it may only take a day to distribute pink slips, it takes two years for an individual to become an operational fighter pilot, and seven years for a pilot's skillset to fully mature.

The Army's main combat platforms—its tanks, fighting vehicles and helicopters—are now decades old, with no replacement programs in sight. And a recent rise in the number of aviation accidents, some of which have been directly tied to the lack of training hours, reflects the stress of a military underfunded and overused.

Worse, the decline in U.S. military strength has coincided with a rise in global threats, and the modernization and expansion of the Russian, Chinese, Iranian and North Korean militaries. Although the threat of a large scale war between near-peer competitors is inconceivable to many, it is important to consider whether an America's unwillingness to properly prepare for a major war could in fact increase the risk of its occurrence.

Unlike an unfortunate but unintended house fire, U.S. adversaries can and will act opportunistically. A continued decline in the size and strength of U.S. forces will invite aggression.

With years of documented damages inflicted by budget cuts, the next administration must immediately work to stop the bleeding, using the wisdom of our first president, George Washington: "If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known, that we are at all times ready for war."

Who was Oswald's real target?

By **JAMES RESTON JR.**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the hours after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, after Lee Harvey Oswald shot and killed Dallas Police Officer J.D. Tippit and was identified as the president's assassin, a Secret Service officer named Mike Howard was dispatched to Oswald's apartment. Howard found a little green address book, and on its 17th page under the heading "I WILL KILL" Oswald listed four men: an FBI agent named James Hosty; a right-wing general, Edwin Walker; and former Vice President Richard Nixon. At the top of the list was the governor of Texas, John Connally. Through Connally's name, Oswald had drawn a dagger, with blood drops dripping downward.

Special Agent Howard turned the address book over to the FBI and, ultimately, to the Warren Commission. Only some time later did he learn that the list with its hugely important insight into the killer's motive had been torn out of the book.

I didn't hear about Howard or talk to him until after I published my book "The Accidental Victim" three years ago on the 50th anniversary of the assassination. In it I argue a circumstan-

tial case that it was Connally, not JFK, who was Oswald's target in Dallas. It is the story of a smoldering grudge in which Oswald came to associate Connally with all the setbacks in his disastrous, hopeless life.

This grudge began in January 1962. Oswald was in the Soviet Union, where he'd gone after being honorably discharged from the Marine Corps. When the Marines learned he wanted to defect, Oswald's discharge was summarily downgraded to undesirable. (The defection was never consummated.) Oswald was angry and for good reason; his actions after his discharge had nothing to do with his three years as a Marine.

By early 1962, Oswald was disenchanted with Soviet life and wanted to return home. He was now saddled with a wife, Marina, and a child, and he knew that someone with a ninth-grade education, who had spent time in Russia and had an undesirable discharge on his record, would have few prospects in America.

Oswald wrote a heartfelt plea to Connally, a fellow Texan and the head of the Navy Department, the civilian overseer of the Marines. In poignant terms Oswald asked Connally to redress what was a transparent miscarriage of justice. What he got back a month later, in February 1962, was a classic bureaucratic

brushoff. The dismissive letter arrived in an envelope with Connally's smiling face on the front, bursting from a Texas star and announcing his bid for the Texas governorship.

In the months after Oswald's return to America, his worst fears were realized. He did, indeed, have serious trouble finding and holding jobs in Texas. According to the testimony of Russian emigres in Dallas who knew him during this period, every time his discharge came up in a job interview, Oswald froze, and his blame of Connally deepened.

In her testimony to the Warren Commission, Oswald's wife, Marina, definitively named Connally and not Kennedy as her husband's target. She repeated this belief in testimony to the U.S. House Select Committee on Assassinations in 1978. Dallas emigres also testified to Oswald's obsession with Connally. Moreover, there was ample testimony that Oswald bore no animus toward Kennedy. Indeed, he admired JFK's important initiatives, such as the president's efforts at detente with Russia.

Why was this evidence on motive ignored and buried in the official investigations? More pointedly, why is Oswald's little green book—which I've examined in the National Archives—missing that pivotal page? For many years, in a community college class he teaches, retired Special Agent Howard has put forward his view of the assassination: Connally, not Kennedy, was Oswald's target.

To the question of the missing address book page, Howard suggests two possibilities. J. Edgar Hoover, the FBI director, would not have wanted his agency, through agent Hosty, to be implicated in Oswald's murderous rage. As it turns out, Hosty had vigorously interviewed Marina Oswald over her immigration status just weeks before the assassination. An infuriated Oswald left a written threat at the Dallas FBI office in early November 1963. Hosty testified to Congress that on orders from higher-ups he deep-sixed the threat after the assassination. President Lyndon B. Johnson might have had an even stronger motivation: He would not have wanted Connally, his closest friend, to be identified as the catalyst for the crime.

For 53 years, a cottage industry has developed over the motive for the Kennedy assassination. It had to be connected to the Mafia or the Russians or the Cubans or Oswald's Marxist beliefs or Jack Ruby's petty crimes in the Dallas underworld. The public has embraced the notion that the greatest crime of the 20th century must have been the product of an equally grandiose conspiracy.

But none of these conspiracy theories hold up when the events of the six months before Nov. 22, 1963, are carefully studied. Oswald was no coldhearted professional assassin under orders. The real answer to the reasons he took aim are to be found in his frustrations and obsessions. And the real tragedy of Dallas lies in the accidental death of a president who just happened to be in the line of fire.

James Reston Jr. is the author of, among other books, The Accidental Victim: JFK, Lee Harvey Oswald, and the Real Target in Dallas and The Lone Star: The Life of John Connally. He is a senior scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What methamphetamine can do for you

1. Impair your memory and language skills;
2. Increase your chance of getting Parkinson disease and dyskinesias;
3. Increase your chance of cardiac arrhythmia, seizures, renal failure, temporary blindness, to list only a few;
4. And even withdrawal symptoms include cognitive impairments, disturbed sleep or insomnia, depression and anxiety, which can lead to suicidal thoughts.

This information was taken from "5 Manifestations of Methamphetamine Poisoning" by Anna Moszczynska, Ph.D., and can be found at www.psychiatrytimes.com.

Ice addiction is a devastating condition, affecting not only the person who tries ice and then gets addicted but also the family and friends who suffer as they lose someone they love to the effects of the drug.

Don't start and, if you do, get help! Contact the Community Guidance Clinic for help. Or call NMPASI, 235-7273/2724 for information.

Jeanne Rayphand

Legal counsel, Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

DAMAGE

From Page 10

The painful price that his suffocating tyranny exacted on the Cuban people is impossible to measure, but safe to say that there is hardly a single freedom recognized by civilized countries around the world that Fidel Castro did not violate.

In one of the great paradoxes of the era, Castro successfully posed as a champion of the downtrodden around the world, even as he trampled on the rights of downtrodden Cubans. His many admirers abroad chose to ignore, and illogically justify, his denial of freedom to the people of Cuba even as they fought for the right to enjoy civil liberties and freedoms at home.

Revolutionary violence and human-rights abuses were there from the start. First came the summary executions of those who supported the Fulgencio Batista regime that Castro overthrew—and later of counter-revolutionaries, many of whom had fought against Batista at Castro's side. Castro's firing squads executed upwards of 18,000 Cubans. Others were sent to unendurably wretched prisons to serve 20-plus years.

This laid the groundwork for the regime's machinery of repression. Its diabolical aim: to instill absolute obedience through fear. Gays, Jehovah's Witnesses, outspoken Catholics and those deemed anti-social for disagreeing with Castro doctrine were sent to labor camps for "reeducation."

Later, mobs known as Rapid Response Brigades berated, hurled rocks at and assaulted Cubans leaving during the Mariel boatlift. They did the same to regime critics. State security agents infiltrated, divided and destroyed dissident organizations. They psychologically and physically tortured countless individuals who had been denounced as threats to the regime.

'Tempest in a teapot'

Mr. Ambrose Bennett is mistaken that the National Labor Relations Act applies and extends jurisdiction for collective bargaining to the teachers of the CNMI Public School System. If we are missing the point, Mr. Bennett should cite the provision of law that allows public employees their collective bargaining rights under the National Labor Relations Act. Second, if Ambrose Bennett finds any CNMI law that permits collective bargaining for public employees in the CNMI, we would appreciate knowing what that is. Third, a teacher representative member of the CNMI BOE comes as a representative of the members of a collective bargaining unit. Since, absent of collective bargaining for teachers in the CNMI Public School System, does it matter that a collective bargaining unit must first exist for the constitutional mandate to take effect? How can a teacher represent the members of a collective bargaining unit within PSS if collective bargaining law does not exist, allowing public employees to negotiate collective bargaining contract with jurisdictional employers within the CNMI government?

Mr. Ambrose Bennett's argument is all "tempest in a teapot." Mr. Bennett mixes confusion with obfuscation, and it is often his lack of knowledge about public sector employees' collective bargaining laws and public policy that triggers idiosyncratic pretenses he had mastered harnessing what he does not know about.

Francisco R. Agulto

Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Castro spies came to America, too. Five Cuban spies were convicted in the murder of four Brothers to the Rescue, unarmed South Florida fliers, looking for Cubans at sea who were shot down on Raul Castro's orders by Cuban MiGs in 1996.

Fidel Castro destroyed civil society, replacing social cohesion with neighborhood committees that spied on Cuba's citizens. Elections? Never in more than 60 years; only the Communist Party existed. Independent newspapers and free expression? None. Only state organs of propaganda.

Freedom to worship was restricted, and the institutional church was treated with suspicion and disrespect. Private property was abolished. Public and private school systems were replaced by indoctrination in schools designed to serve Communist ideology.

And he also ruined an economy that had been the third-largest in Latin America when he took power by promoting disastrous agrarian and economic experiments. The damage became most painfully apparent after a disintegrating Soviet Union ended its massive subsidies to Cuba in 1991.

Withdrawal from a \$4-billion-a-year habit wasn't pretty. Cuba's centralized economy went into a tailspin, and Castro the communist was forced to turn semi-capitalist—although he never yielded the controlling share. He sought joint ventures, primarily with European and Canadian investors. He rented out Cuban workers, whose wages in Cuban pesos amounted to some 5 percent of what the foreign investors paid for their labor; Castro kept the rest. He also legalized the use of the U.S. dollar, which created class divides between the "haves" who received remittances from abroad and the "have-nots" without access to the valued currency.

But none of this was enough to satisfy increasingly restive Cubans, so after an intestinal illness forced him to cede control to brother Raul in 2006, the government made necessary changes

to the economy that Fidel would once have condemned—throwing the doors open to tourism, adjusting to the demands of needed foreign investors and allowing more Cubans to become self-employed and own small businesses.

While economic transition remained a work in progress, the police state created decades ago by Cuba's Soviet masters and their allies for the regime's benefit remained intact. It is Fidel Castro's most enduring creation.

A recent report from Human Rights Watch could have been written decades ago: "Short-term arbitrary arrests of human rights defenders, independent journalists and other critics have increased dramatically. Other repressive tactics employed by the government include beatings, public acts of shaming, and the termination of employment."

From the beginning, many Cubans chose to flee rather than to tolerate the lack of freedom as Castro effectively turned Cuba from a nation of grateful immigrants into a country of desperate emigrants. In Miami-Dade County alone, the population either born in Cuba or descended from Cuban immigrants in 2010 was 856,000, with some estimates of the worldwide diaspora at 3 million.

Now, after surviving countless assassination attempts, communism's bankruptcy, economic collapse, his failed revolution, Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz has passed into history.

This is a moment to celebrate the prospect of a future without Fidel Castro. He should be remembered as the cynical dictator who nearly destroyed Cuba for the gratification of his own ego. Building a free, open and prosperous democracy would be the Cuban people's greatest, most satisfying payoff.

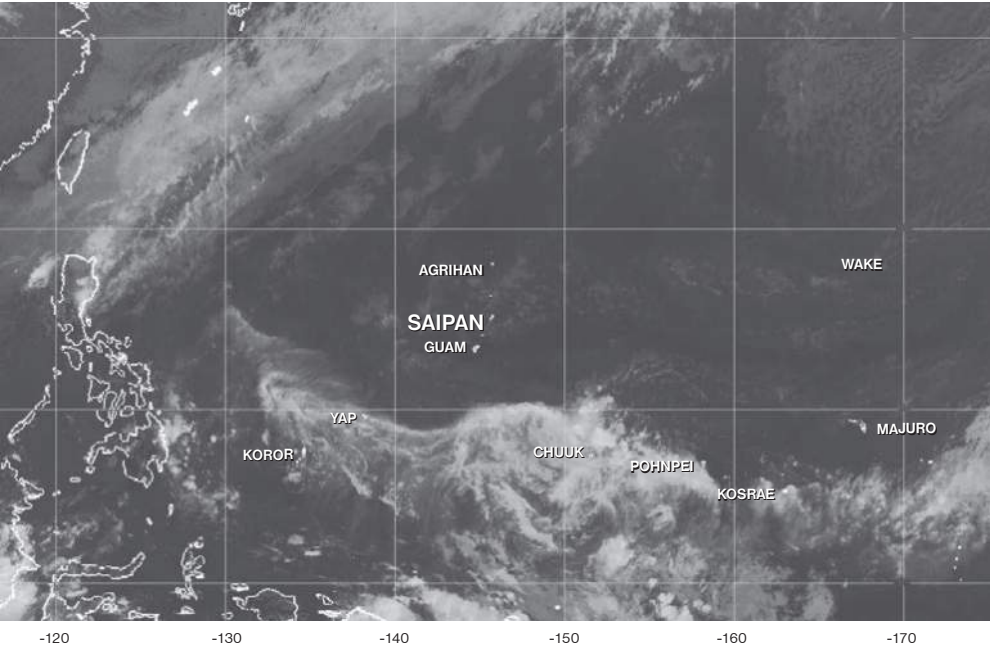
The totalitarian dictator is dead. May his police state and inhumanity be buried along with him.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:48 AM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas waters. The VAD wind profile reveals east winds of 6 to 11 knots just off the ground which then increase to between 16 and 24 knots from 2 thousand to 8 thousand feet. Last night’s weather balloon shows the winds increase further above 10 thousand feet to between 25 and 35 knots.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Mostly sunny	83 / 89 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Morning clouds	78 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Morning clouds	78 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Afternoon clouds	76 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Heavy rain	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	81 / 83 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Morning clouds	57 / 66 °F
Beijing	Afternoon clouds	20 / 37 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	62 / 67 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	71 / 76 °F
London	Sunny	28 / 42 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly sunny	47 / 66 °F
Manila	Partly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	47 / 71 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	74 / 80 °F
New York	Dense fog	47 / 61 °F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	41 / 55 °F
Paris	Sunny	27 / 39 °F
Pusan	High level clouds	37 / 53 °F
Rome	Sunny	35 / 50 °F
Salem	Cloudy	45 / 50 °F
San Francisco	Mostly sunny	48 / 59 °F
Seoul	High level clouds	24 / 44 °F
Tokyo	Mostly sunny	44 / 55 °F
Washington, DC	Light rain	47 / 65 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
1:35 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.13 Feet
8:17 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.8 Feet
1:51 PM	LOW TIDE	1.04 Feet
6:53 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.86 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:26 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	5:56 AM	5:42 PM
Wednesday	6:45 AM	6:26 PM
Thursday	7:34 AM	7:13 PM
Friday	8:23 AM	8:02 PM
Saturday	9:11 AM	8:53 PM

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat						
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily						
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily						
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily						
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily						
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily						
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily						
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily						
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily						
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily						
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily						
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						

SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily			
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

ROTA TO SAIPAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

China, US pledge to promote tourism

China-US Tourism Year 2016 came to the end on Sunday, with officials from both countries pledging to expand tourism cooperation and enhance friendship.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said Sunday that the China-US Tourism Year has helped expand people-to-people exchanges and given fresh impetus to bilateral relations.

"Thanks to joint efforts, the Tourism Year has been marked with colorful and fruitful events, which have helped expand our people-to-people exchanges and practical cooperation in various areas, and injected new impetus to China-US relations," Xi said in a written message to the closing ceremony of the China-US Tourism Year 2016 held in Washington.

He urged the two sides to build on the success of the Tourism Year to sustain the momentum of people-to-people and cultural exchanges, enhance mutual understanding and friendship, and reinforce the social foundation for the development of China-US relations.

"The growth of China-US relations requires the participation and support of our peoples," he said.

The China-US Tourism Year was an outcome of Xi's state visit to the United States in September 2015. Xi said he and US President Barack Obama made the decision with a view to promoting the building of a new model of major-country relationship,



Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang said at the closing ceremony that the two sides have organized a series of cultural and people-to-people exchanges this year to boost tourism in the two countries and made the peoples of both countries enjoy the fun of tourism. **XINHUA**

and carrying forward practical cooperation and enhancing friendship between the two countries.

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang said at the closing ceremony that the two sides have organized a series of cultural and people-to-people exchanges this year to boost tourism in the two countries and made the peoples of both countries enjoy the fun of tourism.

Thanks to the Tourism Year, the number of Chinese tourists traveling to the United States increased by 14.7 percent in the first three quarters of this year from a year earlier, while the number of American tour-

ists traveling to China went up by 7.3 percent during the same period, he said.

"The two-way tourist flow between the United States and China is expected to top 5 million this year," Wang said, adding that tourism cooperation "has injected strong impetus" to the two economies.

Citing US official statistics, Wang said that about 2.59 million Chinese traveled to the United States last year and spent 30.1 billion US dollars in total while in the country.

"The number of Chinese tourists going to the United States this year is expected to surpass 3 million, and they'll create 45,000 direct jobs and

operational activities.

"Adding to our vehicle pool, this will assist our personnel and allow Commerce to facilitate the programs to the community. The vehicle will be used for administrative and enforcement purposes such as business development and economic and labor enhancement for the benefit of the whole community. The administration appreciates all the assistance and expresses its profound gratitude as we continue to strengthen our working relationship with USDA and the CNMI's rural development and economic needs," Rabauliman said.

USDA Rural Development is an agency with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which runs programs intended to improve the economy and quality of life offering loans, grants and loan guarantees to support essential services such as housing, economic development, health care, first responder services and equipment, and water, electric and communications infrastructure. **(Office of the Governor)**

Commerce, grants office get new cars, thanks to USDA

To improve public services provided by Department of Commerce and the Office of Grants Management, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded grants to both offices to acquire official vehicles. The grants were under the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program.

Joseph Diego, USDA Area II Director of Guam, announced the awards early this year to promote efficiency and enforcement efforts in the region.

According to Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman, the USDA Rural Development Office has been instrumental in improving public services though funding assistance.

"Commerce extends its appreciation of Joseph Diego and USDA Rural Development of Guam. They have been supportive in providing assistance with USDA grant programs," Rabauliman said.

Epiphany E. Cabrera Jr., administrator for the Office of Grants Management, said that the availability of an offi-

cial vehicle will help improve OGM's efficiency while providing added mobility.

"Many times our office receives inquiries that require more than a simple phone call. It is crucial and often more suitable to meet with different departments for a site visit to research and better understand needs when producing a new grant proposal or dealing with financial compliance," Cabrera said. "OGM is extremely appreciative of the support extended from the USDA Rural Development Office and the team of USDA Area II Director Joseph Diego and we look forward to their continued support as we endeavor in improving our government services."

The USDA Rural Development Office provided previous assistance under the Rural Business Enterprise Grant, which funded the 2012 CNMI's Economic Restoration Symposium.

Under the USDA Community Facilities Grant, Commerce has also procured one vehicle for daily

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hopwood sets PTSA meeting

Parents and guardians of Hopwood Middle School students are being informed that their PTSA meeting and 2nd Quarter Mid-Progress Report Day is on Nov. 30, 2016, from 4pm to 5pm. The administration and PTSA officers will be sharing reports about important school updates, and other vital information. From 5pm to 6pm, parents and guardians will report to their child's teachers for a conference meeting and distribution of the 2nd quarter progress report cards. This will be an opportunity for both to discuss the academic and behavioral progress of the student with the teachers. **(PR)**

USCIS officer at SHRM's December meeting

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will meet on Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's and will feature Kamana Mathur, the community relations officer of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services-Pacific District. Mathur will provide an opportunity for questions. CW visas and H-2B visas will not be discussed at this meeting. All members of the community are invited to attend the meeting, which is from 11:30am to 2pm. The attendance fee is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-SHRM members. Register with Penny Jones by email at penny.jones@hyatt-saipan.com or contact Penny or Lany at 323-5867 or 323-5867. Seats are limited, but still available. **(PR)**

FOA to hold board meeting

The Friends of the Arts will hold a board meeting tomorrow, Nov. 29, 6:30pm to 9pm, at the Canton Restaurant, across the Mobil station/Mc-

230,000 indirect jobs for the United States," he noted.

As both China and the United States are countries with large tourism resources and markets, Wang said China stands ready to work with the United States to simplify visa policies and provide more convenient, comfortable and secure services for tourists.

The two sides will also lower the entry threshold for investment in the tourism industry, and encourage companies from both countries to expand investment cooperation, the Chinese vice premier said.

US Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker, who made her first trip to China in 1984, said at the closing ceremony that tourism between the two countries has seen significant progress over the past decade, yet there's

still much room to grow.

"The United States only captures 2 percent of the outbound Chinese market despite strong demand from Chinese visitors to our shores," she said.

The US government is taking advantage of the China-U.S. Tourism Year and improving tourism operations to draw more Chinese visitors to the country, she said.

As China is developing its own national park system, it's working with the US National Park Service to learn its best practices, models and lessons, Pritzker said.

"As we close the Tourism Year and look to the future, I want to assure all of you that we will continue to promote more traveling and tourism between our two nations," she said. **(Xinhua)**

Donald's branch in Garapan. The meeting will include musical and thespian entertainment. There will be a detailed discussion regarding the 2017 season and the opportunity to renew membership and purchase season tickets. For more information, contact Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com. **(PR)**

Military training on FDM

The U.S. military will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla until Dec. 2, from 8am to 11:55pm. The public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. **(PR)**

Chamber to host career exploration day

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its "2016 Career Exploration Day" on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016. High school juniors and seniors will choose a field of business they are interested in and will be paired with a participating chamber business. Students will be recognized at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall during the chamber's membership meeting on Dec. 7 at 12pm. For more information, call the chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. **(SCC)**

SHEFA deadlines

The SHEFA deadline for new application only is on Dec. 1, 2016. The deadline for all supporting documents is on Feb. 28, 2017. All documents must be complete and submitted at once. **(SHEFA)**

Wage and salary statement workshop

The Division of Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement,

Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2016 and other 2016 year-end filing requirements. The workshop will be on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Please confirm your attendance by calling the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000 and 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. **(PR)**

Holiday closures at Visitor Center

The American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed on Dec. 25, 2016, Christmas Day, and on Jan. 1, 2017, New Year's Day. Park staff would also like to encourage the public to visit the Visitor Center. With the exception of the holidays closed, the VC is open every day from 9am to 5pm. If you have any questions, contact park ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 or 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. **(NPS)**

Holiday bazaar on Dec. 4

The annual Brilliant Star School Holiday Bazaar will be held Sunday, Dec. 4, from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The event is an opportunity for artists and other vendors to showcase their arts, and for residents and visitors to get an early start on buying unique and beautiful gifts for the holidays. Interested vendors may contact the school at 323-STAR (323-7827). For parents who would like to have a little alone shopping time, the event features an arts and crafts area for children. The daylong event is also graced by performances throughout the day by various community cultural and arts groups. There will also be raffles. **(PR)**

A Christmas Village



First lady Diann Torres, middle, is accompanied by Miss Marianas Peachy Quitugua for the official lighting and unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



First lady Diann Torres, fourth from left, joins Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility executive director Geri Dela Cruz and some of the CSR team members at their Christmas Village creation, the castle from Disney's Frozen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



People have their photo taken in front of one house built for the Christmas Village in Susupe.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



L.J. Castro and his family have their picture taken in front of a giant Christmas tree during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



The castle from Disney's Frozen is recreated by Imperial Pacific International for this year's Christmas Village, a crowd-drawing attraction for both young and old.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Imperial Pacific International's CSR team is the logistics team for the project, A Christmas Village.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Best Sunshine International, Ltd.-CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz and CSR representatives deck out the bridge with finishing touches in time for the lighting of the Christmas Village last Sunday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A child sticks her head out of a Minnie cutout for a photo during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



People line up to take turns having a photo taken inside a two-story house during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



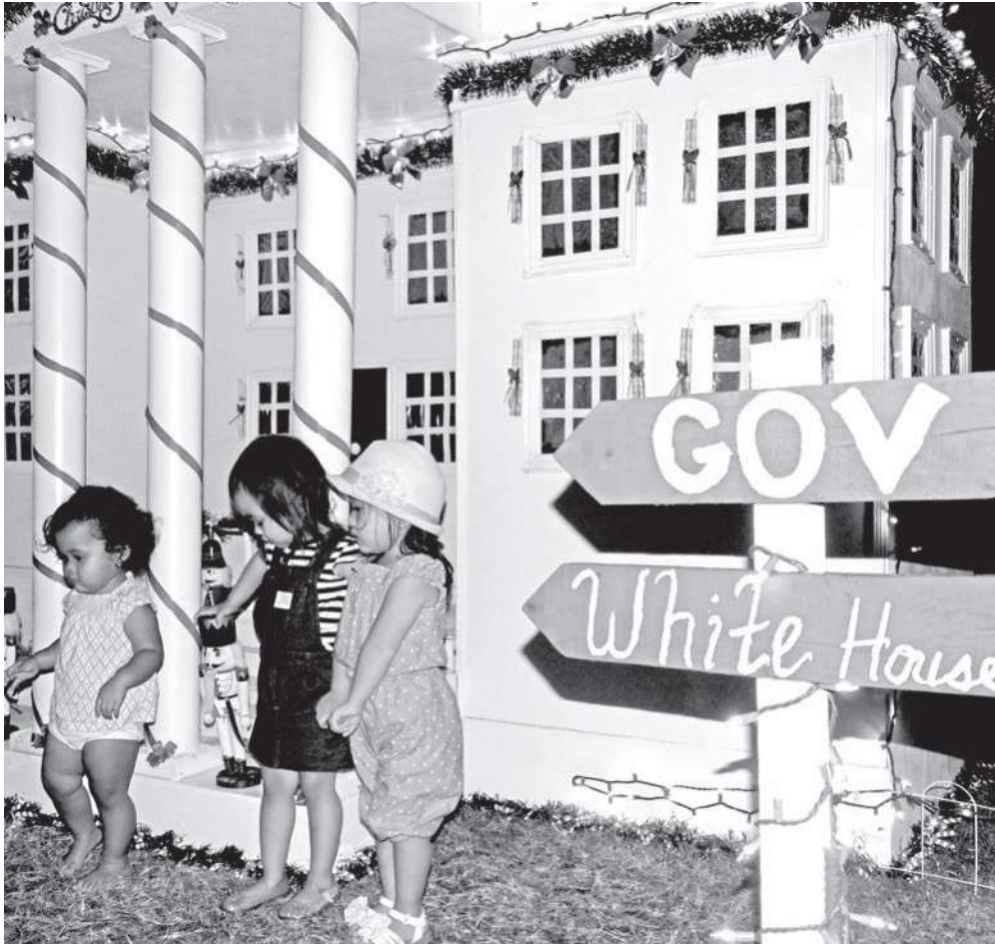
A group of children head into a gingerbread-themed house during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A couple of children have their photo taken alongside Mr. and Mrs. Claus during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Toddlers are placed in front of a miniature White House during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A woman and two children pose for a photo in front of a house during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A group of children pose for a photo between two illuminated snowmen during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Children smile for a photo in one of the carts made during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A family has a photo taken along with cutout characters from Disney's Frozen during the unveiling of the Christmas Village in Susupe last Sunday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

Business

Thanksgiving shoppers spent less

NEW YORK (AP)—Thanksgiving weekend shoppers picked up hot toys, TVs and new Apple products, buying both online and in stores, but spent less per person because of rampant discounting that they've come to demand.

Once all the receipts are in, customers look to have spent an average of \$289.19 over the four-day weekend, down nearly 3.5 percent from a year ago, based on a survey by the National Retail Federation. The pressure on prices was especially strong on products like TVs.

More than 154 million customers said they had shopped or planned to this

Thanksgiving weekend, up from 151 million a year ago, according to the survey conducted Friday and Saturday by the National Retail Federation and Prosper Insights & Analytics. And more were doing it online, as about 99.1 million went to the stores and 108.5 million shopped online.

Carmen Cunningham of Kansas City, Kansas, was in Denver on Sunday and decided to stop at the mall to pick up a new pair of Ugg boots for her daughter. They were discounted at Nordstrom, which is one of her favorite places to shop. She said she got a bit of a late start this year because of the presidential election, so she's been looking online for

deals and jumping when she sees them.

"I'm trying to make sure I get the wish lists in and look at those and shop and do what I can before Christmas gets here," she said.

The drop in spending underscores how even with an improving economy, many shoppers are still focused on habit developed during the Great Recession. They're fixated on deals and more readily using technology to find them whenever they want to buy. More than a third of customers surveyed by the NRF said that all of their purchases were on sale, up 11 percent from a year ago.

Docomo Pacific now televising Fox 6 live on Saipan and Tinian

TAMUNING, Guam—Docomo Pacific announced yesterday, Nov. 28, the live broadcast of Fox 6 to their Saipan and Tinian channel lineup.

After months off air following the destruction of Typhoon Soudelor in 2015, Docomo Pacific officially broadcasted the Fox 6 network live on Channel 10,

Monday.

Prior to Typhoon Soudelor, Fox 6 on Channel 10 aired delayed content for viewers on Saipan and Tinian.

Tatiana Perez, public relations coordinator for Docomo Pacific, said: "We're extremely excited about this because now our Saipan and Tinian viewers will have the

chance to watch more of their favorite shows in real-time. They'll also get the chance to experience the Superbowl live, covered by Fox 6 this season!"

Fox Network televises shows such as *Empire*, *Gotham*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Family Guy*, and *The Simpsons*. (PR)

Boss only takes one employee out for annual birthday lunch

Q: Three years ago, my boss hired "Katy," who is a great person and a good fit for our group. My problem is that every year he takes Katy out to lunch on her birthday. He has never done this with any other employee. In fact, he never remembers our birthdays at all.

I feel quite sure there is no hanky-panky going on, so this favoritism towards Katy is hard to understand. I don't see how a manager can give one person special treatment and ignore everyone else.

Unfortunately, after a co-worker and I discussed this, she made a point of telling our manager that my birthday was coming up. Now I'm afraid he'll feel obligated to ask me to lunch. How can I tactfully decline this forced invitation?

A: Your boss appears to have a huge blind spot regarding employee perceptions. If I were talking to him, we would discuss the morale-busting implications of recognizing only one birthday. But since he isn't available for coaching, let's consider your reaction to his cluelessness.

Although your feelings are understandable, you're wasting a lot of emotional energy on a rather trivial issue. The birthday girl is "a great person," the relationship is not inappropriate, and the lunches don't affect your work. So you really need to let this go.

In reality, your boss may not actually be remember-

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



ing this woman's special day. Given that he typically ignores birthdays, it's quite possible that Katy is the one who brings it up. If she's fairly assertive, she might even suggest lunch.

So if your manager does offer a celebratory invite, accept graciously and enjoy your outing. Perhaps you could recommend putting everyone's birthday on his calendar. And by the way, on your boss's birthday, does anyone take him to lunch?

Q: A few weeks ago, I accepted a job in a third world country. When I arrived, I was dismayed to find that the business is quite small and the working conditions are deplorable. The water doesn't always run, the restroom fixtures are inadequate, and management tries to cut costs by reducing the heat.

I asked if I could bring in a personal heater at my own expense, but my boss refused with no explanation. When the outside temperature was

near zero, I asked if I could work from home. He got upset and said new people shouldn't be so demanding. I think he's being irrational and ridiculously unfair, but I don't know what to do.

A: Since you apparently took this job without researching the company, I assume you also failed to explore cultural differences. Business practices vary greatly from country to country, so it's possible that you and your boss have a conflict of expectations.

If you plan to continue this international adventure, I strongly suggest reading "The Culture Map" by Erin Meyer and "Kiss, Bow or Shake Hands" by Morrison & Conaway. These books are an invaluable resource for anyone working in a multicultural setting.

Of course, if this new environment proves to be intolerable, you can always head for home. But even in familiar territory, you need to research potential employers before accepting a job.

Nation

Trump assails recount push, claims millions voted illegally

NEW YORK (AP)—President-elect Donald Trump claimed without evidence Sunday that "millions" voted illegally in the national election, scoffing at Hillary Clinton's nearly 2 million edge in the popular vote and returning to his campaign mantra of a rigged race even as he prepares to enter the White House in less than two months.

Trump and his lieutenants assailed an effort—now joined by Clinton—to recount votes in up to three battleground states, calling the push fraudulent, the work of "crybabies" and, in Trump's estimation, "sad."

The president-elect himself launched a Twitter offensive that spanned more than 12 hours on Sunday, casting a shadow over the legitimacy of an election that he actually won.

"I won the popular vote if you deduct the millions of people who voted illegally," he tweeted in the afternoon before alleging in an evening tweet "serious voter fraud in Virginia, New Hampshire and California." Trump's transition team did not respond to questions seeking evidence of the unfounded claims.

There's been no indication of widespread vote manipu-



People vote during early voting for the 2016 General Election at the Salt Lake County Government Center on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2016, in Salt Lake City. AP

lation, illegal voting or hacking that materially affected the outcome one way or the other. It's that very lack of evidence that suggests Trump is likely to prevail in recounts.

Trump on Sunday tweeted part of Clinton's concession speech, when she told supporters they must accept that "Donald Trump is going to be our president," and snippets from her debate remarks, when she denounced the Republican nominee for refusing to say in advance that he would accept the Election Day verdict.

This came on top of his saying it was a "scam" that Green Party nominee Jill Stein was revisiting the vote count in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania. Trump won Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, and as of

Wednesday, held a lead of almost 11,000 votes in Michigan, with the results awaiting state certification Monday. His Michigan margin was a hair's breadth 0.22 percent of the state's votes.

Clinton leads the national popular vote by close to 2 million votes, but Trump won 290 electoral votes to Clinton's 232, not counting Michigan. She could conceivably tip the electoral balance in the remote event that all flipped to her in recounts.

Trump returned to New York Sunday evening after spending Thanksgiving weekend at his West Palm Beach estate. His transition team said the president-elect had scheduled a series of meetings Monday with prospective administration hires.

California considers ban on sex between lawyers and clients

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The nation's largest state bar association is overhauling ethics rules for attorneys for the first time in 30 years, and some lawyers are unhappy about a proposal that would open them up to discipline for having sex with clients.

California currently bars attorneys from coercing a client into sex or demanding sex in exchange for legal representation.

Supporters of an all-out ban say the relationship between a lawyer and client is inherently unequal, so any sexual relationship is potentially coercive. But some attorneys say it's an unjustified invasion of privacy.

The proposal is part of a long-awaited shake-up of the state bar association's ethics rules for attorneys, which were last fully revised in 1987. Lawyers who violate the regulations are subject to discipline ranging from pri-

vate censure to loss of their legal license.

A state bar commission has spent months crafting and amending 70 rules under goals set by the California Supreme Court. Other changes under consideration would allow the state bar to discipline attorneys for discrimination and harassment even without a separate finding of wrongdoing. The current rule requires a final determination of wrongful discrimination in a lawsuit or other proceeding before the state bar can take action.

Still another change would bring California in line with other states by subjecting prosecutors to discipline for failing to turn over evidence they know or reasonably should know would help the defense.

"The first and foremost goal is to promote confidence in the legal profession and administration of justice

and ensure adequate protection to the public," said Lee Smalley Edmon, a California appellate court judge and head of the commission revising the rules.

The sex ban has divided the rules revision commission, though similar restrictions are in place in other states. As of May 2015, 17 states had adopted a blanket sex ban drafted by the American Bar Association, according to an ABA committee that looked at implementation of the group's ban.

Like the ABA ban, California's proposal creates an exception when the sexual relationship preceded the attorney-client relationship.

At an October commission meeting, lawyer and commission member Daniel Eaton said the current rule regarding sex isn't working, and pointed to a lack of disciplinary action against attorneys as evidence.

Asia

Indonesia says 2 militants arrested

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's anti-terror squad has arrested two militants who were planning to attack prominent places in the country's capital, including the Myanmar Embassy, police said Sunday.

An interrogation of suspected bomb maker Rio Priatna Wibawa, who was arrested this past week, led authorities to the men, said national police spokesman Boy Rafli Amar. All three claimed allegiance to the Islamic State group.

Bahrain Agam was arrested in northern Aceh province late Saturday and Saiful Bahri was captured in Banten province on Sunday, Amar said.

Police had said that Wibawa had sufficient explosives at his home in West Java province to make bombs three times more powerful than those used in the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people.

Since the Bali bombings, which were carried out by the al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah militant group, a security crackdown has netted hundreds of radicals and reduced their capacity for large attacks. But a new threat has emerged from among the hundreds of Indonesians who have traveled abroad to fight with IS and the group's supporters in Indonesia.

Amar said the arrested

militants told authorities they wanted to retaliate against Myanmar for recent attacks on Rohingya Muslims. They also planned to attack Indonesia's parliament, police headquarters and television stations. An attack on the embassy could have been carried out this month or next, Amar said.

The embassy in Jakarta was the scene of protests against the persecution of Rohingya on Thursday and Friday. Protests also occurred in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand.

Sectarian violence in Buddhist-majority Myanmar has killed scores of Muslims, and thousands have been driven from their homes.

Aborigines outside Australia's Parliament protest violence

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Aboriginal traditional dancers carrying clap sticks and spears and with faces painted white with clay traveled from remote northern Australia to Parliament House on Monday to draw attention to rampant domestic violence in Outback indigenous communities.

Scores of Rirratjingu people

flew 2,900 kilometers (1,800 miles) from Yirrkala in the Northern Territory to dance a ceremony at the front door of Parliament and to urge national action against family violence in communities such as theirs.

"We are seeing horrifying rates of family violence in indigenous communities and it is incumbent on all people—com-

munity leaders, political leaders and businesses—to act to drive it down," Rirratjingu elder Bakamumu Marika said.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull linked arms with lawmakers of various parties, including opposition leader Bill Shorten, as a sign of solidarity against domestic violence as they watched the ceremony.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China detains 9 managers after plant collapse kills 74

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities have detained nine executives responsible for a power plant where 74 workers were killed when an under-construction cooling tower collapsed. State media reported Monday that those held included the board chairman of engineering firm Hebei Yineng, which has a history of workplace deaths in its projects. The workers were building a circular cooling tower in the southern province of Jiangxi when the interior scaffolding collapsed last Wednesday, releasing a cascade of steel, concrete and wooden planks. It was one of China's deadliest workplace accidents in recent years and prompted calls from government officials for stepped-up inspections and a renewed emphasis on worker safety. Investigators previously announced the detentions of 13 people after the accident. It wasn't immediately clear if the suspects identified Monday were included in that total.

S. Korean capital glows with anti-presidential fervor

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—In each of the past five Saturday evenings, thousands of protesters have transformed a darkened avenue near the South Korean presidential pal-

ace into a sea of light, waving candles, glowing smartphones and battery-powered LED sticks, singing and shouting for President Park Geun-hye to step down. Candlelight vigils have become the main form of mass, peaceful demonstrations in South Korea since the early 2000s, reshaping a national protest culture once known for its ferocity. Thousands participated in candlelight vigils in 2002 protesting the death of two schoolgirls struck by a U.S. military vehicle, and in 2008 over Seoul's decision to resume U.S. beef imports amid persisting fears of mad cow disease. The crowds calling for Park's removal have been much larger.

Manila police detonate improvised bomb near US Embassy

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Manila police detonated an improvised bomb found Monday in a trash bin near the U.S. Embassy, snarling morning traffic after authorities closed a portion of a major boulevard where the device was found. No one was reported hurt in the incident. Two explosions were heard as a bomb disposal unit detonated what Metropolitan Manila police chief Oscar Albayalde later described as an improvised explosive device. Street sweeper Winniefreda Francisco said she called police after

finding a cellphone attached to a bottle-like cylinder wrapped in black tape, with wires connecting the cylinder to the phone. The trash bin where the device was found was about 20 meters (22 yards) from the embassy compound.

Gay rights activists march in annual New Delhi parade

NEW DELHI (AP)—Hundreds of gay rights activists marched in a parade in New Delhi on Sunday, highlighting the continuing discrimination India's LGBT community faces and demanding the repeal of a law criminalizing homosexual acts. As they marched to the beat of drums, some participants in the annual gay pride parade said much has changed in recent years, with people starting to accept them. But others said India's right-wing government is against the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Activists had cheered in 2009 when the New Delhi High Court declared as unconstitutional Section 377 of the Penal Code, which criminalizes homosexual acts. But the judgment was overturned four years later when India's Supreme Court decided that amending or repealing Section 377 should be left to Parliament, not the judiciary. The law makes gay sex punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

World



Men hang a giant banner with a picture of Cuba's late leader Fidel Castro as a young revolutionary, from the Cuban National Library building in Havana, Cuba, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016. AP

Cuba bids farewell to Fidel

HAVANA (AP)—A nine-story portrait of a young Fidel Castro has joined the towering images of fallen guerrillas overlooking Havana's Plaza of the Revolution, the massive square where Cuba on Monday begins bidding farewell to the man who ruled the island for nearly half a century.

After 10 years of leadership by Castro's younger brother Raul, a relatively camera-shy and low-key successor, Cuba finds itself riveted once again by the words and images of the leader who dominated the lives of generations. Since his death on Friday night, state-run newspapers, television and radio have been running wall-to-wall tributes to Fidel, broadcasting non-stop footage of his speeches, interviews and foreign trips, interspersed with adulatory remembrances by prominent Cubans.

"There's a genuine feeling of mourning, that's not a formality, that's not showy, that's not outward-focused, but rather completely intimate," former National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon said on state television Sunday.

Ordinary people have largely been staying at home, off streets hushed by a prohibition on music and celebration during the nine days of official mourning for Castro. For some, particularly younger Cubans, Castro's death barely registered.

Yankemell Barrera, a 20-year-old student, said Castro wasn't a strong presence in his life and that he wasn't much affected by his death or planning to go to any of the memorial events. He said studying for finals would be a better use of his time.

"Even if I'm obligated to go, I'm not doing it," he said.

Tens of thousands of others, though, were expected to return to the streets Monday after 9 a.m., when simultaneous 21-gun salutes will sound in the capital and in the eastern city of Santiago, where Castro launched his revolution in 1953. At the same moment, Cubans are expected to begin filing through the monument to national hero Jose Marti in the center of the plaza, where the government said they would "render homage and sign a solemn oath to carry out the concept of revolution expressed by the revolutionary leader."

The "concept of revolution" is a section of a 2000 speech in which Castro calls Cubans to believe in "the profound conviction that no force in the world is capable of crushing the force of truth and ideas."

Syrian army Aleppo advance displaces thousands

BEIRUT (AP)—Simultaneous advances by Syrian government and Kurdish-led forces into eastern Aleppo on Sunday set off a tide of displacement inside the divided city, with thousands of residents evacuating their premises, and threatened to cleave the opposition's enclave.

Rebel defenses collapsed as government forces pushed into the city's Sakhour neighborhood, coming within one kilometer (0.6 miles) of commanding a corridor in eastern Aleppo for the first time since rebels swept into the city in 2012, according to Syrian state media and the Syrian Observatory for Hu-

man Rights monitoring group.

Kurdish-led forces operating autonomously of the rebels and the government meanwhile seized the Bustan al-Basha neighborhood, allowing thousands of civilians to flee the decimated district to the predominantly Kurdish Sheikh Maqsoud, in the city's north, according to Ahmad Hiso Araj, an official with the Syrian Democratic Forces.

The government's push, backed by thousands of Shiite militia fighters from Lebanon, Iraq, and Iran, and under the occasional cover of the Russian air force, has laid waste to Aleppo's eastern neighborhoods.

An estimated quarter-mil-

lion people are trapped in wretched conditions in the city's rebel-held eastern districts since the government sealed its siege of the enclave in late August. Food supplies are running perilously low, the U.N. warned Thursday, and a relentless air assault by government forces has damaged or destroyed every hospital in the area.

Residents in east Aleppo said in distressed messages on social media that thousands of people were fleeing to the city's government-controlled western neighborhoods, away from the government's merciless assault, or deeper into opposition-held eastern Aleppo.

Focus

By **CARLEY PETESCH**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOMA, Congo (AP)—More than 4 million children have lost at least one parent in Congo over the past two decades, the silent victims of continuous cycles of violence.

And more than 26 million orphans live in West and Central Africa, where Congo is located—the second highest number in the world behind South Asia, according to the United Nations.

These children have grown up amid conflict fueled by ethnic strife and the fight over valuable minerals. The violence and displacement are eroding the tradition of families caring for their own.

The breakdown in family means some orphans are forced to look after themselves and their younger siblings. Some are vulnerable to recruitment by armed groups. And many also face sexual exploitation, in a country where rape has become commonplace on the streets.

“They are the orphans with a story of violence since 1994 - it’s a generation of victims that continues,” says Francisca Ichimpaye, a senior monitor at the En Avant Les Enfants INUKA center. And the children “lose their story in the violence.”

As Congo falls once again into violence in the face of a delayed election, here are profiles of some orphans in Goma.

ALPHA MELEKI, 6

Alpha Meleki was found in a pile of bodies after an attack by rebels on his village in Congo’s eastern Beni earlier this year. He had been shot and left for dead with his parents in the bush.

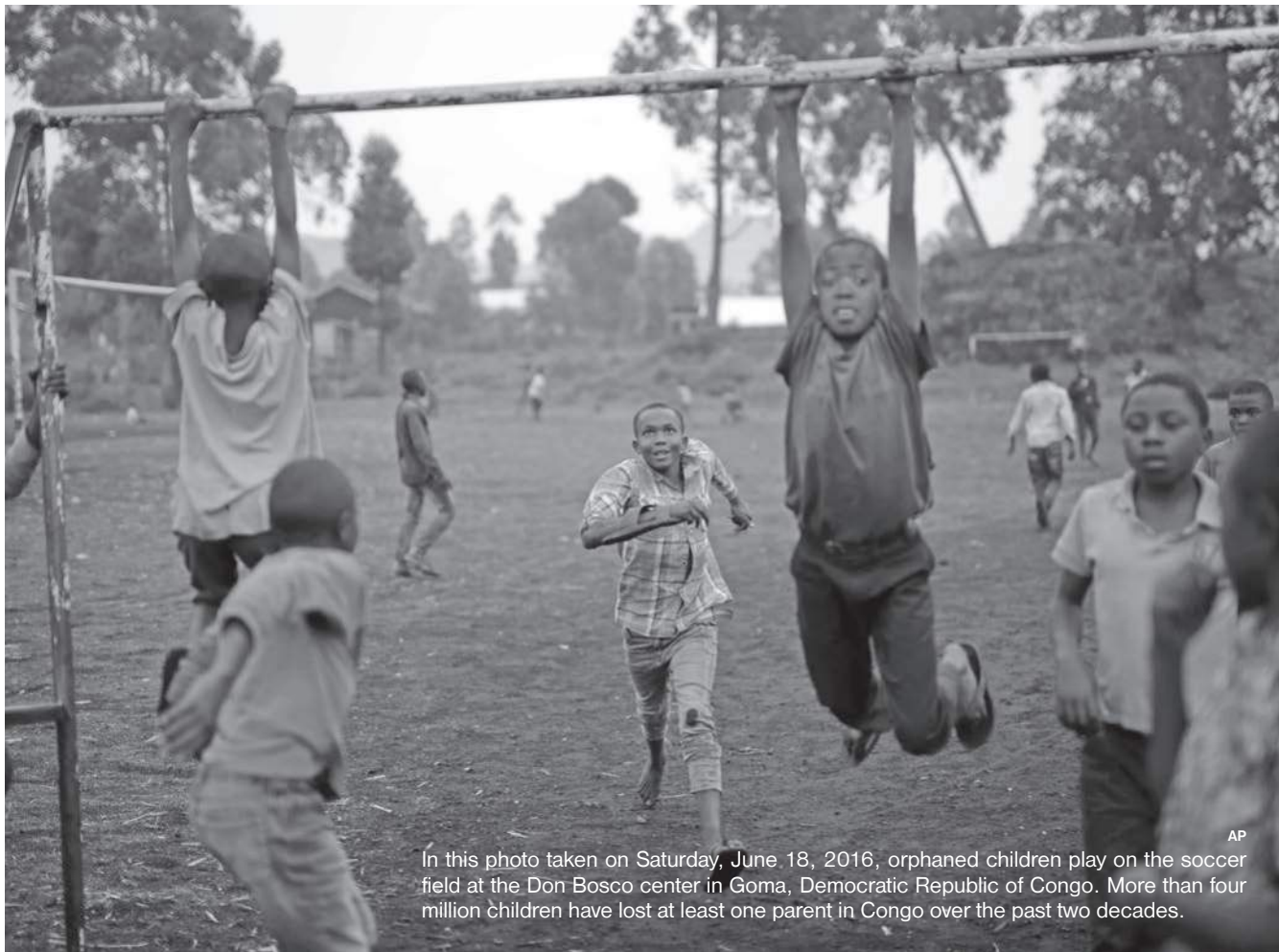
The bullet wounds and the vine-like surgery scar on the 6-year-old’s pudgy belly have only recently healed. He hobbles around, pulling his loose shorts up on his tiny body.

The emotional scars are still fresh. When held by someone new, Alpha sits limply. His large eyes glaze over, and sometimes glare with angry distrust. He saves his smiles for those he trusts, often seeking the hands of adults he knows.

He cannot stand to see others suffer. Whenever another child at the INUKA center needs medical attention, Alpha cries and screams.

In a quiet moment, he touches a short, wide scar on his head. He lets others touch it.

“They hit me with a machete,” he recalls.



In this photo taken on Saturday, June 18, 2016, orphaned children play on the soccer field at the Don Bosco center in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. More than four million children have lost at least one parent in Congo over the past two decades.

Silent victims of violence: 4 million kids orphaned in Congo

The center says it could take years to find any family members, as attacks persist in the northeast.

JEANNETTE UMUTSI, 17

At 17, Jeannette Umutsi has become the caregiver for her little brother, whom she hopes to protect from the horrors she has seen.

At first she recounts her story stoically and with distance. She was born only a few years after Rwanda’s 1994 genocide spilled into Congo. Armed fighters stormed her home, hit her in the leg with a shovel and nearly killed her sister.

She and her family fled her hometown of Kiorlarwe in 2008 to escape the violence. In the next village, she hid in a toilet enclosure with wooden plank floors for three days to save herself from another attack. Alone, she would sneak out to grab tomatoes that grew nearby.

For days, she heard gunshots and saw dead bodies, including that of her uncle. As she continues to talk of violence, she breaks down into tears and gasps.

“I have so many nightmares now. So many nightmares,” she says.

Her mother returned to save her. But she later died after giving birth to her brother Shukuru, now 5.

Her father used to be a fighter, she says. Once, he threatened to kill her with a machete. As she talks about him, she folds over herself, head in her skirt, and the fear is palpable in her eyes.

Finally she fled the family. She wrapped Shukuru up, put him on her back, and walked for days, struggling to breathe, on the way to Camp Mugunga in Goma. She is now an older sister to more than a dozen other children at the INUKA center, where she helps cook the fish and rice for lunch and rounds the kids up for naps.

MOISE, 7, AND AGATA MUNOKA, 5

Moise Munoka, 7, sits still, looks down and speaks in a near whisper when he recounts the loss of his mother.

She died in 2013 after health complications from rapes left her quite sick. Rape is a constant in Congo, where it has become a weapon of war. At the Children’s Voice Virunga Centre in Goma, where Moise and his sister Agata gather during the day, at least 30 children were born of rape.

Though Moise never knew his own father, he knows that he was probably a fighter who raped his mother. When asked if he wants to meet

him one day, he scrunches his nose up and shakes his head in disgust, “No!”

He is happy to have left his war torn village of Massissi.

“It’s a bad place because there’s war, trouble, people don’t like each other, they like to kill,” he says. “There’s always dead people, and blood.”

He lights up as he explains that he and his sister are now being cared for by a widow, Arlette Kabuo Malimewa, 45. She has three children of her own and also cares for a third foster child.

Agata sleeps in the living room, which has several posters of Jesus Christ lining the walls. Moise has his own room, where his two book bags hang from nails on the wooden planks.

Malimewa sells bed covers in bright pinks and whites that hang over her black lava rock gate, and makes about \$5 a week.

“I love them, but it is difficult,” she says. “I want to keep them until my death ... because who would they go to?”

ANUARITA MAHORO, 12

Anuarita Mahoro, 12, has been ostracized because she was born with a right hand problem that leaves her too weak to do hard labor.

She lived with her father un-

til he was asked to chop wood for armed men who then killed him in 2014. Her mother lived with “the men of the forests,” as she refers to the fighters. They eventually killed her mother, too, and left.

Anuarita fled to her grandparents in Kiwanja. When her grandfather died, she was forced to leave her grandmother to find work to eat. Starving and sick, she was eventually taken in by a center for orphans.

Here, her right hand tucked between her legs and leaning on her left elbow, she apologizes.

“I have suffered so much so I might sound confused,” she says.

She hopes to return to her village and reclaim her grandmother’s land, showing those in the community her worth.

“After the death of my parents, the community discussed who would take this child. And no one was prepared to take me on as a parent. So since no one wanted me, when I grow up they better not come and ask me for any help,” she said, grinning widely, and then covering her face and laughing.

She would like one day to set up a center for orphans. And if she ever got the conversation she wants with the men who killed her parents,

she solemnly reveals the one thought that won’t leave her mind.

“I would ask why they killed my father and my mother and didn’t kill me?”

DAMIEN MATATA BIZI, 22

Damien Matata Bizi looks down, his shoulders heavy, when he hesitantly recounts his past as an orphan who became a child soldier.

Many of the thousands of other former child soldiers in Congo over years made a similar choice, or had none at all. Rwanda’s 1994 genocide pushed fighters into Congo, and multiple rebel groups now fight over the mineral-rich region.

Matata Bizi became a rebel after his father, also an armed fighter, died. He was only 10 years old.

“I was angry when I learned of my father’s death. So I wanted to avenge my father, so I entered into the rebellion to fight,” he said. “My mother could never pay for school, and we could never find money to pay for food so I thought this was best.”

Matata Bizi says he was treated well, but others weren’t.

“The life that vulnerable children have is hard,” he says. “They don’t have education, they don’t have clothes, so it may be better to be in an armed group with the ability to find food and clothes than to be at a loss.”

When asked about having to kill people, his eyes narrow and he impatiently takes a deep breath, visibly angry.

“There’s a difference between the militants and child soldiers,” he says. “The adults have the occasion to reflect on what they’ve done. But for a child, we can only execute an order we are given. We don’t think of things, we do what we are ordered to do.”

Matata Bizi was found, rehabilitated by the United Nations and integrated into the army in 2009. He signed papers that say he is no longer a child soldier. He carries the dirtied, crumbling pages around in his shirt pocket. They brand him now.

He came to Goma in 2013. He was trained as a mechanic at the Don Bosco center in Goma but has no work. He says it’s easier to make more money and move up in rebel groups than in the army.

“War I know isn’t good, and neither is violence. It’s not good or normal,” he says. “But the armed groups exist because the country is badly organized. There’s no work. There’s no occupation for the young.”

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:By **ROBERT DUFFER**
CHICAGO TRIBUNE**2017 Chevrolet Cruze Hatch**
opens up alternatives to compacts and crossovers

The argument for the hatchback is best illustrated by the amount of stuff hauled in a given weekend. A portable hockey locker, basketball bag, small cooler, and a backpack can't fit in a compact sedan as easily as a hatch.

Neither can a bike or two.

What is the argument then for the hatchback over the taller, bigger crossover? There are so many crossovers that they are distinguishable as black socks. The hatch is smaller, sportier, just as versatile, and appealing more to customers (according to Chevy).

Citing a 9 percent growth in the segment last year, Chevy introduced the 2017 Cruze Hatch. As Chevy's best-selling car around the world, the Cruze has been Chevy's experimental car in America, determining if what sells in Europe and other places can sell here. The Cruze was Chevy's only mainstream American car to get a 2-liter turbo diesel entry in 2014, and a new diesel will return paired to either a new nine-speed automatic transmission or six-speed manual in both the sedan and hatch.

For now the Cruze Hatch comes with one engine, a pokey turbo four. It's not as sporty as the Mazda3, Volkswagen Golf, or the rival Ford Focus, but it pushes at the edge of the premium segment with a host of technologically advanced standard equipment and a refined-but-versatile cabin.

It comes in just two trim levels, LT and Premier, which is fortunate since keeping track of Chevy's half-dozen L-1-something trim levels is like understanding a teen's ever-evolving textcronyms.

With teens in mind, the Cruze Hatch Premier comes with Teen Driver, enabling parents to set limits on distractions such as radio volume and provides a report card of sorts to a smartphone on hard stops, speeding instances and more. There are multiple USB ports, including one in the rear, and the car is a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot that comes with a three-month data plan supporting up to seven devices.

Most importantly, as far as technology goes, the suite of safety features including



TNS
Sportier than a crossover, more versatile than a compact, the new Chevy Cruze Hatch makes up for what it lacks under the hood with a stylish cabin loaded with technology.

alerts for inadvertent lane change, blind spot, rear cross traffic, forward collision, and rear park assist is only \$790 extra (the Driver Confidence II Package). If all those alerts sound like a potential amusement park, it's not; the warnings are noticeable but not obnoxious.

The turbocharger in the four-cylinder is more for

NUTS & BOLTS**2017 Chevrolet Cruze Hatchback Premier at a glance**

■ **Vehicle type:** Compact hatch
■ **Base price:** \$23,945
■ **As tested:** \$25,600 (excluding \$875 delivery)
■ **Mpg:** 28 city, 37 high-

way

■ **Engine:** 1.4-liter turbo four-cylinder

■ **Transmission:**

■ Six-speed automatic

■ **Parting shot:** An

■ appealing alternative

■ to the bland compact crossover

economy than performance, eeking out nearly 35 mpg in combined commutes. EPA estimates a conservative 31 mpg combined. There is nothing fast about it; mash the pedal, crack the whip, chant "go car go" and the 153-horsepower engine will get you to 60 mph at some point in the near future (Chevy cites 7.7 seconds but

we're skeptical). The shifting from the six-speed automatic is quick and smooth, and turning can be fun, which is the sportiest advantage over a crossover.

What it lacks under the hood it makes up for inside the well-appointed cabin.

The Cruze Hatch has an excellent dash design with spartan center stack that reminds us of how simple cars once were, yet doesn't compromise any of the modern conveniences. There is a volume dial under the touch screen, knobs and familiar buttons for climate control, and below that a storage area with USB charge ports and a 12V jack. In the center console between the elbow rest and cup holders is a phone holder that can only fit smartphones vertically. The rubber holder grabs the phone and won't let go at hard stops or over rumble strips.

It's far better than the Golf and less cluttered than the Focus, more intuitive than the Mazda3.

Rear legroom is above average, but the Golf feels much roomier. Total cargo space with the rear seats down is 47.2 cubic feet, about 5 feet smaller than the Golf but roomier than the Focus and Honda Civic. Some hatches can lead to more road noise, but the Cruze Hatch is a quiet and smooth ride.

The only knock on the interior was the weak phone speaker. We could only hear our caller talking when we were stopped. We tried changing the settings, jacking volume on the display and our bluetooth, to no avail. Hopefully it was just a glitch on our tester.

On the outside the Cruze Hatch has a subtle European style that is distinct from the cookie-cutter crossover. It has the longer nose of the Mazda3, but is distinguished with a split-front grille that is both wide and tall.

The rear wheels are tucked close to the tail, and the integrated spoiler at the top of the hatch gives it an edge. The Premier trim level comes upgraded with unremarkable 18-inch wheels.

There are sportier hatchbacks, but the advanced technology and stylish cabin give the Cruze Hatch a competitive edge at this price point.

UNDER THE HOOD: What to carry in a roadside emergency kitBy **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: Since moving from the city to a mountainous area, I've been thinking about putting together some roadside emergency kits for my kids to put in their cars. What would you recommend putting in the kits?

A: I believe it's been almost four years since I last addressed this subject here.

Having been asked this before, I've come up with a basic but comprehensive kit and another for those who really hit the road hard. Both include reader suggestions. You should choose one or the other based on your needs and the amount of trunk space you have available. Assembling

the kit might take some time but will be well worth the effort should anything ever go awry.

To start, here's what's in the basic kit: a sturdy tool bag for carrying supplies, first-aid kit, hand sanitizer and alcohol wipes, road flares (replace every five years), gloves, LED flashlight (a Rayovac Indestructible or similar), spare lithium flashlight batteries, poncho, granola bars (vacuum-sealed), gallon of drinking water (can also be used as engine coolant), battery jumper cables or super-compact jumper, tire pressure gauge (dial type is best), a few sheet rock screws (they can plug a small hole in a tire), aerosol tire inflator or sealer (non-flammable), tire

plug kit, quart of motor oil, quart of automatic transmission fluid, \$10 in quarters, a \$20 bill, paper and pencil, toilet paper, { roll of paper towels, tarp or towel (to lay or kneel on when changing a tire or making repairs), "need help" sign or sun shade, multi-tool (Leatherman is a good brand), slip joint and vise grip pliers, Phillips head screwdrivers, scissors, previously replaced fan or serpentine belt (as a spare), and an assortment of fuses (check if your car uses SFE, ATO, mini, or low-profile ATO fuses).

Here's the secondary kit:

Space (foil) blankets, forehead LED lamp, radiator leak-stopper (AlumAseal or Bar's Leaks), roll of rescue

tape or electrical tape (to repair hoses), roll of duct tape (useful for mending broken things), whistle, signal mirror (from marine supply store), orange smoke flare (from marine supply store), tire chains (seasonal), 30 feet of rope, small axe or hatchet, folding shovel, nylon tow strap, tube of E-6000 sealer, lightweight cigarette-lighter air compressor, zip ties (assortment), small roll of bailing wire.

Whew.

Yes, assembling one of these kits won't be exactly easy, and you surely don't want to take up your whole trunk. So, keep in mind that needs vary. If these lists seem overwhelming, prioritize which items you really need and buy bit by bit.

Life & Style

China plans \$2 billion film studio as part of culture drive

BEIJING (AP)—China’s government has announced plans to build a \$2 billion film studio as part of a national push to expand its cultural influence.

The studio in the southwest municipality of Chongqing will include a theme park and

tourist attractions, state media reported late Sunday. Construction will begin early next year and is expected to cost 15 billion yuan (\$2.18 billion).

Officials say they have operating agreements already with several foreign partners.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the park would include tie-ins with gaming and online entertainment.

The park will be named after President Xi Jinping’s signature “One Belt, One Road” program, a multibillion-dollar effort to

deepen China’s economic and cultural ties with its western and southern neighbors reaching as far as east Africa.

China is already the world’s second-largest film market and home to the world’s largest theater operator, Dalian

Wanda, which has purchased American media companies AMC Theatres and Legendary Entertainment. Its signature film studio, Hengdian World Studios, spans almost 3,000 hectares (7,000 acres).

Facing growing domestic

demand, Chinese officials and companies have sought to fend off Western film imports by producing more competitive films locally. A national quota permits just 34 Hollywood films to be shown each year in domestic theaters.

‘Moana’ cruises with \$81.1M in Thanksgiving weekend

NEW YORK (AP)—Disney’s South Pacific animated tale “Moana” fell short of a “Frozen”-sized debut but nevertheless dominated the Thanksgiving box office with an estimated \$81.1 million over the five-day weekend.

The well-reviewed “Moana,” about a princess’s mythical journey in ancient Polynesia, earned \$55.5 million from Friday to Sunday in North America, according to studio estimates Sunday. Though it didn’t match the 2013 Thanksgiving release of “Frozen” (\$93.6 million over five days in 2013), “Moana” (“MWAH-nah”) scored the second-highest Turkey Day debut ever.

Boosted by the star power of Dwayne Johnson and the appeal of original songs from Lin-Manuel Miranda of “Hamilton,” “Moana” landed Disney another big hit in a year full of them. The studio has notched four of the top six films (“Finding Dory,” “Captain America: Civil War,” “Zootopia,” “The Jungle Book”) and still has “Star Wars: Rogue One” coming in December.

Falling to second was J.K. Rowling’s “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,”

- 1. **“Moana,”** \$55.5 million (\$16.3 million international).
- 2. **“Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,”** \$45.1 million (\$132 million international).
- 3. **“Doctor Strange,”** \$13.4 million (\$9.8 million international).
- 4. **“Allied,”** \$13 million (\$9.4 million international).
- 5. **“Arrival,”** \$11.3 million (\$6.7 million international).
- 6. **“Trolls,”** \$10.4 million (\$7.2 million international).
- 7. **“Bad Santa 2,”** \$6.1 million (\$1.4 million international).
- 8. **“Almost Christmas,”** \$5.7 million.
- 9. **“Hacksaw Ridge,”** \$5.5 million (\$2.1 million international).
- 10. **“The Edge of Seventeen,”** \$3 million.

which earned \$65.8 million over the five-day weekend and \$45.1 million over the three-day weekend. The Harry Potter spinoff, from Warner Bros., has brought in \$156.2 million in two weeks. Overseas, “Fantastic Beasts,” debuted in China, where its \$41.1 million fueled a weekend haul of \$132 million internationally.



This image released by Disney shows characters Maui, voiced by Dwayne Johnson, right, and Moana, voiced by Auli'i Cravalho, in a scene from the animated film, “Moana.”

Those two blockbusters far outpaced more star-driven films.

The Brad Pitt-Marion Cotillard World War II romance “Allied” opened with a mediocre \$18 million over five days. The Paramount Pictures release, directed by Robert Zemeckis, cost a hefty \$85 million to make. But for a proudly old-fashioned film built around the appeal of its stars, “Allied” had to largely do without Pitt’s promotional presence. The actor’s divorce proceedings from Angelina Jolie largely eclipsed the film, which drew an audience 85 percent over the age of 25.

But Warren Beatty’s first film in 15 years, the 1950s Hollywood comedy “Rules Don’t Apply,” resolutely bombed with \$2.2 million over the five-day weekend. Written and directed by Beatty, who also co-stars as Howard Hughes, “Rules Don’t Apply” is the 79-year-old star’s first directed feature since 1998’s “Bulworth.” Though Beatty has worked hard to push the movie (made for about \$25 million), its slim total despite playing on 2,382 screens is one of the worst debuts of a wide release in recent years.

“Bad Santa 2,” from Broad Green and Miramax, didn’t

flop as badly as “Rules Don’t Apply,” but it pulled in a scant \$9 million over five days. The sequel, again starring Billy Bob Thornton, comes 13 years after the 2003 original.

In limited release, a number of potential awards contenders packed theaters. Debuting on a handful of screens were “Lion” (\$32,092 per-screen average), with Dev Patel, and “Miss Sloane” (\$21,000 per-screen average), with Jessica Chastain. Expanding from four to 48 screens was “Manchester by the Sea,” starring Casey Affleck. It took in \$1.3 million with a per-screen average of \$26,048.

The holiday weekend was

the sixth biggest Thanksgiving at the box office, according to comScore, falling slightly behind most recent years. But the fairly strong business, led by well-reviewed tent pole releases, continued what’s been a healthy fall season, up 4.5 percent from last year.

“I don’t think you could find a better line-up in theaters right now,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. “I’d rather see a group of great movies maybe not breaking a record than a group of terrible movies breaking records left and right. This is better for the long term. This creates goodwill.”

Grandma is tired of being a good sport and chauffeur

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and son-in-law have only one vehicle that is running. He works out of town, so he drives it, which leaves my daughter home all day without transportation.

Earlier in the school year, they signed up my granddaughter for after-school sports and she has to practice every day. Since my daughter has no way to take her, they expect me to pick up my granddaughter and bring her home. This means I have to wait for her for about an hour after I get off work, which delays me an hour or more getting home.

After working all day, I’m tired. I just want to get home and get all the things done that I need to do, so I can rest and get ready for work again the next day. I’m not sure what I should do. I feel like I’m being taken advantage of. Any advice you can give will be greatly appreciated!

TIRED AND USED

DEAR TIRED: This shouldn’t be your responsibility. When your daughter and son-in-law signed up the child for sports, they should have thought it through. Rather than impose upon you, perhaps they should ask the parents of other children in the program if your granddaughter could ride along.

If that’s not feasible, consider this: You stated that your son-in-law drives the only running vehicle, which leads me

to believe they have another one that’s broken down. Could you loan or give them money to put it in working condition? If so, you would be off the hook.

DEAR ABBY: I’m the manager of a medium-sized apartment building with several older tenants. As these tenants get older, their needs become greater. When it’s time for the children and family to step in, not ALL do. Some think—and have actually told me—that giving the manager \$20 at Christmas will ensure that Mom/Dad gets to the grocery store, bank and doctor, and the bills are paid all year.

Abby, this is not my family, and I do not feel obligated to take them to run their errands. Their children then tell me, “What am supposed to do? I don’t have time,” etc., and I reply that it’s their responsibility, not mine.

Is there a legal means to make them take care of their own? Threatening to have them charged with elder abuse doesn’t always work.

NOT A DAY CARE OR RETIREMENT HOME

DEAR NOT A DAY CARE: If you’re feeling charitable, make a list of various resources for seniors in your community and offer the information to the “children.” Further, neglecting a vulnerable, elderly parent is considered elder abuse, and if that’s what’s going on, you shouldn’t “threaten.” You should report it to your county adult protective services office.

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I was engaged to a man for seven years. Two weeks after we celebrated our seventh anniversary, he decided he didn’t love me anymore. We parted a year ago, but he has been texting me, picking me up from work and taking me to lunch or dinner quite a lot lately. We spent one night together, but since then, he hasn’t contacted me. What should I do?

TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF IT IN HAWAII

DEAR TRYING: Recognize that your former fiance has the sensitivity of a rock. Accept that a rewarding relationship with him is not in the cards, move on and stop looking back.

To order “How to Write Letters for All Occasions,” send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

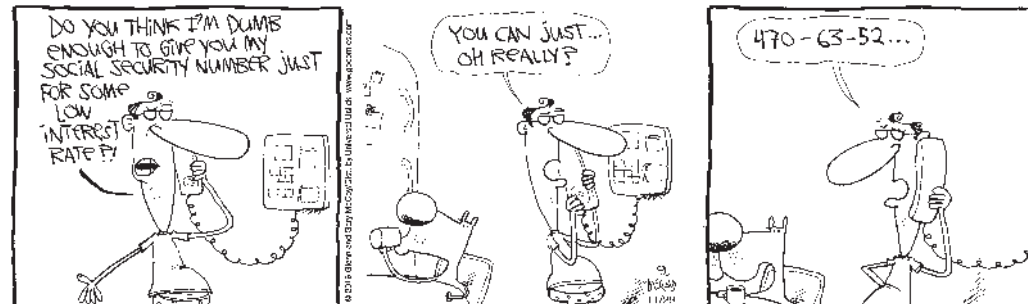


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

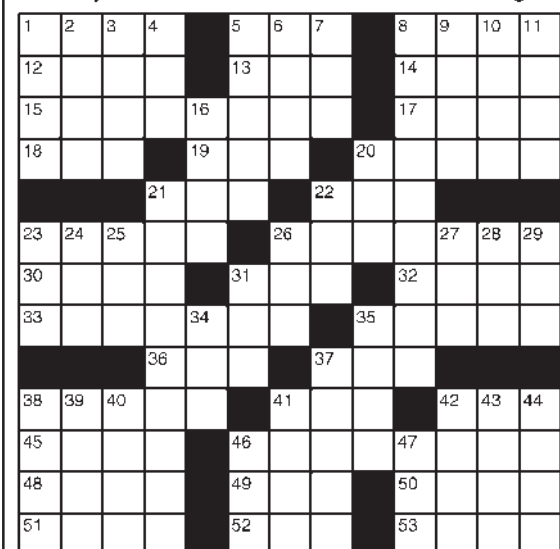
1 Cavort
5 Copper head?
8 Feeble
12 Skin soother
13 Born
14 "The King —"
15 Hawk's opposite
17 Deli loaves
18 Tax form ID
19 Dog doc
20 Gather
21 Cowboy's nickname
22 Big fuss
23 Tale tellers
26 Baby sitter, often
30 Part of A.D.
31 Obtained
32 Site of Apra Harbor
33 Winter Olympics event
35 McCarthy or Craig
36 Ninny

DOWN

1 Knocks
2 Spanish cheers
3 Complain
4 Chest muscle
5 Wing
6 "So —" ("Amen")
7 "A spider!"
8 Bellicose type
9 New Age singer
10 Citrus drinks
11 Smooch
16 Prior nights
20 Nabokov novel
21 "Iliad" conflict
22 Gallery display
23 Scale notes
24 Pen filler
25 Black-bird
26 Republican gp.
27 Press for payment
28 Fellow
29 Actress
31 Baseball execs
34 G7 member
35 Army transport
37 Uproar
38 Folk hero
39 Theater award
40 Bright star
41 Wee songbird
42 Portal
43 March Madness gp.
44 Cooped (up)
46 Prof's degree
47 Mentalist's gift

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-29



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anna Faris, 40; Don Cheadle, 52; Andrew McCarthy, 54; Howie Mandel, 61.

Happy Birthday: Take time to research anything you want to do or obtain. Preparation and facts will be key in helping you do what's best for you. More than one opportunity will present itself, and if you let someone persuade you to make the wrong choice based on ulterior motives, you will regret it. Put your career and personal comfort first. Your numbers are 7, 15, 19, 26, 34, 43, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stay on top of what's being said. Establish your position from an honest and loyal perspective. Offer solutions and do the legwork in order to get things done your way. Travel, meetings and knowledge will all contribute to your accomplishments. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep your money and possessions in a safe place. Someone will provide invalid financial information that can lead to loss. Show more concern about living within your means, and work on the self-improvement projects that will add to your success. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Channel your energy wisely and you will avoid an emotional situation that brings your progress to a halt. Nurture important relationships by taking care of responsibilities and easing the stress of someone you care about. A professional gain is heading your way. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You don't have to follow the crowd. Check out what interests you, identify what fits your needs

and discard whatever appears to be a waste of time. An opportunity offered by a past partner or an employer looks promising but complicated. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Live and learn. Sign up for a seminar or try reaching old goals from a new angle. Explore possibilities and look for support from people you feel have something worthwhile to offer. Take on a challenge and play to win. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on being the best you can be. Update your appearance and implement a good nutritional diet and exercise program into your routine. Don't let anyone speak on your behalf. Live up to your beliefs, values and promises. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Taking on a challenge will turn into a game-changer. What you discover about others will be instrumental in helping you get ahead. Make sure to take time to do some self-discovery as well. Don't let anyone put you down. ★★★★★

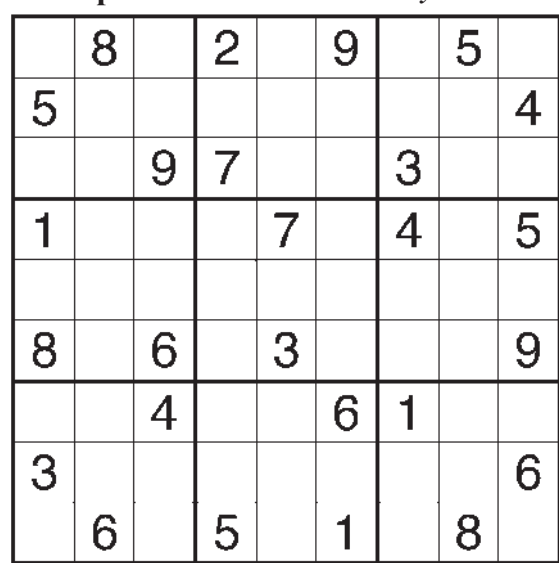
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't move backwards. Getting involved with people who have challenged you in the past will not help you get ahead now. Stay focused on the truth, stand behind what you have to offer and use your talents to reach your goals. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Positive changes at home will ease your stress. Professional advancement will be based on your ability to get things done on time and without making a fuss. An unexpected idea will surface, offering new opportunities and benefits. ★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



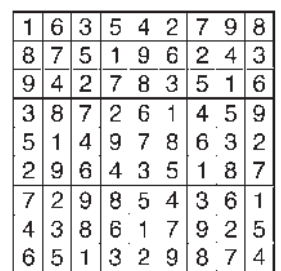
Difficulty Level ★★

11/29

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep life simple. Spend less, do more and focus on making personal achievements. Walk away from unstable situations or people to avoid being dragged into a dilemma that will make you look bad. Proceed with caution. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The coast is clear to do your own thing. An energetic approach to work and helping others will put you in a good position for advancement. A change to the way you think will encourage others to follow your lead. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stay in control. Focus inward and be the best you can be. Refuse to let anyone take liberties that will compromise you in the future. Listen, but don't get into a dispute until you have the ammunition to win the battle. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, vocal and adventuresome. You are a leader, not a follower.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

YOUR COCCYX

Solution: 9 letters

E L U D O N O I T R E S N I S
L N M U L O G O C C Y G I S T
C T O F F I F I E S H U M A N
S H V B A C K W A R D Y S O I
U G C E L I N J U R Y U D S O
M I P S F I L U M R O N E O J
P E A N I M A L A N E A R T B
O W I B D E T I T H I G H
S E N A E B N P N A R O C Y G
T N C R R E S E I I O R I M N
E I A B M O M L L L P S T O I
R P U I R A F R I H P E A T N
I S D C G I P A M E U S I A A
O U A I N D N E B A S E C N E
R S L U M B A R S D O R S A L

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Anatomy, Apes, Backward, Bend, Body, Brain, Caudal, Coccylis, Column, Disc, Dorsal, Fiber, Filum, Horses, Human, Injury, Insertion, Joints, Laminas, Leaning, Ligament, Limb, Lumbar, Muscle, Nodule, Offices, Pain, Posterior, Rudimentary, Sacrospinous, Sciatic, Seat, Spine, Support, Tailbone, Tailfin, Tailhead, Tendon, Thigh, Weight

Yesterday's Answer: Jackets

Purchase WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2 in time for the holidays! Or online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Tie in knots

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

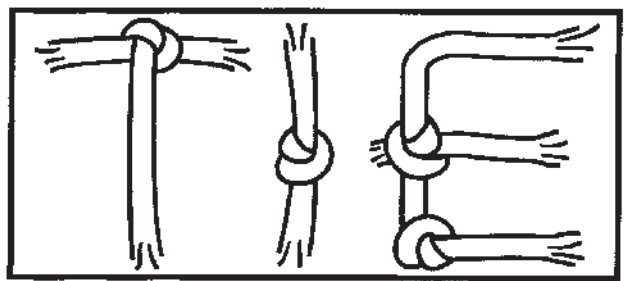
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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP17-BECQ-001**

SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 15, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**“ABANDONED UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK
CLOSURE – W-2 SERVICE STATION, A PROJECT UNDER THE
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY”**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **NOVEMBER 15, 2016** AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP17-DOF/REV-023**

SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 15, 2016 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

**“PURCHASE OF TWO (2) MULTIFUNCTION PRINTERS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, DIV. OF REVENUE AND TAXATION”**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, MP DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

A SINGLE CONTRACT WILL BE AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ LARISSA C. LARSON
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Hanson Micronesia Cement, Inc. – Saipan

Plant Manager

Responsible for daily oversight of our 4000 metric ton cement terminal located on the island of Saipan.

Responsibilities:

- Supervise daily operations of a cement distribution terminal
- Communicate effectively with our customers
- Safely operate equipment to discharge cement from vessels and load customer trucks
- Do periodic maintenance/trouble shoot all terminal equipment
- Prepare all paperwork to accompany loads and keep daily and monthly inventory records
- Ensure all employees are trained and follow safe work practices and procedures; consistent with company policies and OSHA standards

Requirements:

- Minimum of 2 – 4 years' experience in cement or related industry preferred
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written)
- Good mechanical and electrical abilities
- Good organizational skills
- Prepared to work flexible hours, including some weekends, nights, and holidays
- Clerical skills a plus
- College degree preferred (or equivalent by experience)

Please submit resume by email to derek.sadler@hanson.biz.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) **Embroiderer.** Must be able to do embroidery. Must be able to sew/embroider garments, using needles and thread or sewing machines. Assemble garment parts and join parts with basting stitches, using needles and thread or sewing machines. Program machine to be able to embroider a specific design. Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in production of precision. Must have a 1-2 years experience in embroidery. Knowledgeable of principles and methods of Embroidery. Multi-tasking. Can work on longer hours. Good eyesight.

Qualified US Citizen applicants may send resume/bio-data at
hr.islandapparel@gmail.com
No phone calls please.
Island Apparel
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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

Henry P. Manipon) FCD-DI
Petitioner,) CIVIL ACTION
) NO. 16-0530
vs.)
Lenibeth Crisostomo) **SUMMONS FOR**
Manipon) **PUBLICATION**
Respondent,)

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 309, P.O. Box 10001 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 26th day of October, 2016

/s/ Clerk of Court

JOB VACANY ANNOUNCEMENT

WELL DRILLER

Minimum of 8 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER Certification are required.

ASSISTANT DRILLER

Minimum of 5 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools, & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

DRILLER HELPER

Minimum of 5 years experience of assisting in water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

Please call
Alexander Incorporated at
234-5117 • 235-5116 OR

Alexander Incorporated
Alexander Building, Beach Road,
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USCIS SETS 2017 CW-1 CAP AT 12,991

CUC: Gulick, DHS ignoring advice on CW-1 cap 'mind'

Sirok discloses DHS' confidential deal with

Justice lawsuit affects military's plans. PAGE 3

Executive director candidate to accept offer

Earthquake waiting for executive director candidate to accept offer

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By ROSELYN M. MORALES

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST
Announcement # JVA17-002

DUTIES: The successful candidate will monitor and supervise participants for the CNMI Drug Court. The compliance specialist will work directly with men and women who have substance abuse additions and will report to Drug Court Manager and Court regarding participant compliance in the program. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Provides assistance to the Drug Court Manager in monitoring participants;
- Performs all assigned duties relating to cases scheduled for court appearance in drug court hearing;
- Gathers and evaluates data pertinent to individual drug court cases from resource areas including, as necessary, participants' home, school, church, social agencies, neighborhood contacts, etc;
- Contacts public and private community resources to secure services for participants. Maintains a continuing and ongoing relationships with the agencies as necessary;
- Coordinates enforcement of drug court orders including curfews and home detention with CNMI Drug Court Probation Officer and Law Enforcement Officers;
- Maintains contact with local law enforcement agencies, Drug Court Judge, Office of the Public Defender, Office of the Attorney General, employers, local social service agencies, schools and others;
- Coordinates investigations in preparation of court-ordered reports staffing and hearings;
- Maintains case records and statistical data for evaluation purposes and for submission to the Drug Court Manager;
- Attends and participates in Drug Court staffings and hearings;
- Attends public relations activities such as community group meetings, conferences, panel discussions, and other related forums;
- Follows Court policy for monitoring payments ordered by the Court. The payments to be monitored include, but are not limited to, restitution, fine, child supports, etc.;
- Works closely with Drug Court Caseworkers to support case management, coordination of services and monitoring;
- Conducts gender-specific observed drug testing in accordance with CNMI Drug Court protocols; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained an associate's degree from a recognized college or university in criminal or behavioral science or related field. Have four (4) years experience in the law enforcement or other related experience.

Applicant must have a professional demeanor and be able to exercise good judgment in stressful situations. The ability to maintain client confidentiality at all times is imperative. Report writing skills and case management experience would be preferred. Applicants with criminal records will not be considered. Criminal record check will be conducted. Drug test designated position.

Have a valid driver's license and be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel; must be knowledgeable about the use of data systems.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be \$25,000 - \$28,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK III
Announcement # JVA17-003
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court
SAIPAN

DUTIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The Employee in this class performs work with wide latitude for the exercise of independent judgment and action in accordance with established policies, practices and court procedure. The following are required duties:

- Receive, review and record documents filed for hearing;
- Review documents presented by litigants for accuracy, proper form, and conformance with court rules and decisions for approval and signature by judges;
- Track cases taken under advisement, ensure updates of same and provide periodic reports to the Clerk of Court and effected judges;
- Set the court calendar and adjust the same to maximize courtroom time and meet unusual situations;
- Prepare bench warrants, subpoenas, summonses and other related documents for issuance;
- Assess fines, receive and account for monies, issues receipts, prepare deposit slips, and make disbursements when ordered or directed;
- Interpret and disseminate information, law, policies, and procedures governing the hearing of cases;
- Maintain the list of court-appointed attorneys and ensure their rotation for indigent criminals, juveniles and 8 CMC §1719 cases;
- Assist with the certification of records in cases appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court;
- Serve as a courtroom clerk for the judges, which includes but is not limited to the following: ensuring courtroom readiness for proceedings, attending court sessions, administering oaths to witnesses, operating electronic recording equipment, listing all relevant portions of proceedings on a log, receiving, marking and assuming responsibility of all introduced evidence, and performing translation during proceedings;
- Assist with the training and supervision of assigned deputy clerks and section staff; the training includes but is not limited to courtroom procedures, custodianship of records, certification of records, administering of oaths, administering jury panels, and other clerkship duties for all trial court proceeding;
- Assist with preparation of reports to include compact impact, organizational performance, statistical data, procurement and asset management, and others as required;
- Assist in the intake, retrieval and storage methods of all Drug Court Cases and enforce procedures regarding record and custodianship issues;
- Assist with the day to day operation of the Office of the Clerk of Court;
- Monitor the case flow of all drug court cases by working with all stakeholders;
- Assist with calendaring and docket handling within the division; and
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and must have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in business administration or related field, plus a minimum of four (4) years of experience in legal, law enforcement, court administrative or related work. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be \$32,000 – 35,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at OPM offices in the CNMI, the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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Tel. (670)236-9818
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michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL I
Announcement # JVA17-004
On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Director of Law Enforcement and Security in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms; and
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be \$16,652 - \$20,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

PROBATION OFFICER I
For two (2) Positions
Announcement # JVA17-005/6

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Chief Probation Officer in the Office of Adult Probation on Saipan which involves investigating, monitoring and/or supervising various levels and types of offenders' court ordered probation. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs all assigned duties relating to probationers' cases scheduled for court hearings;
- Investigates thoroughly offenders' personal history, background and environment;
- Gathers and evaluates data pertinent to individual cases from resource areas like the offenders' home, school, church, social agencies, neighborhood contacts, etc.
- Conducts interviews with probationers according to approved techniques in order to determine and clarify probationers' problems, and consulting with the supervisor as necessary, suggests constructive methods for dealing with such problems;
- Contacts public and private community agencies to secure their aid in solving probationers' problems. Maintains a continuing and ongoing relationship with the agencies as necessary;
- Documents facts and testifies in Court with respect to the Probationers' activities, behavior, and quality of adjustment while under supervision;
- Appears in Court for the purpose of providing testimony on Probation cases;
- Enforces Court Orders involving Probation cases;
- Attends public relations activities, conferences and field visits in connection with investigation and supervision functions; and
- Performs other law enforcement and public safety related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university. Have three (3) years experience in legal, law enforcement and/or court work. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be \$20,485 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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Chiefs beat Broncos 30-27 in overtime



DENVER (AP)—Cairo Santos' 34-yard field goal hit the left upright and bounced through as time expired to give the Kansas Chiefs a 30-27 overtime victory over the Denver Broncos in the NFL on Sunday night.

That avoided the third tie in the NFL this season, something that hasn't happened since 1973 before the league introduced overtime.

The winner followed a risky move by Broncos coach Gary Kubiak, who sent his kicker out for a 62-yard attempt with 1:01 left only to see Brandon McManus come up short.

That gave the Chiefs possession at the Denver 48 with one timeout and just over a minute remaining. The Chiefs reached the Denver 16 before Santos ended the snoozer-turned-thriller in perfect fashion.

The Chiefs (8-3) kept up with the Oakland Raiders (9-2) in the AFC West race and the Broncos (7-4) could find themselves fighting for a wild card now.

Both teams kicked field goals on their opening possession of overtime, McManus from 44 yards and Santos from 37. That followed Kansas City's amazing tying drive in the final 3 minutes of regulation.

Alex Smith threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to rookie Tyreek Hill and a 2-point conversion pass to tight end Demetrius Harris with 12 seconds left to tie it at 24.

Giants 27, Browns 13

In Cleveland, Eli Manning threw two touchdown passes to Odell Beckham Jr. and Jason Pierre-Paul returned a fumble for a TD as the New York Giants extended their winning streak to six and kept the Browns winless.

Manning had three TD passes. They don't overwhelm anyone, but the Giants (8-3) do just enough to win and are in position to make the playoffs for the first time since winning the Super Bowl in 2011.

Manning threw a 32-yard TD pass to Beckham in the second quarter and added a 4-yarder to the star wide receiver with 5:10 left to finally put away the Browns (0-12).

Cleveland has lost 15 in a row since last season. It is 3-30 since ending the 2014 season with five consecutive losses.

Buccaneers 14, Seahawks 5

In Tampa, Florida, Jameis Winston threw a pair of



touchdown passes to Mike Evans as Tampa Bay's rejuvenated defense shut down Russell Wilson and Seattle.

Evans scored on receptions of 3 and 23 yards in the opening quarter, a grieving Alterraun Verner had one of two interceptions off Wilson, and the Bucs sacked the Seattle quarterback six times.

The Bucs (6-5) have won three straight to climb back into contention for a playoff berth. In addition to stopping Seattle's three-game winning streak, they remained one game behind first-place Atlanta in the NFC South.

The Seahawks are 7-3-1. Playing two days after the death of his father, Verner picked off Wilson to stop a promising drive in the final minute of the opening half. The reserve cornerback was embraced on the sideline by teammates, who continued to play inspired defense in the second half.

Raiders 35, Panthers 32

In Oakland, California, Derek Carr came back from an injured finger to lead another fourth-quarter comeback as the Raiders won their fifth straight game.

Carr threw for 315 yards and two touchdowns despite missing a series after the injury, leading the Raiders (9-2) back from an eight-point deficit in the fourth quarter to clinch their first winning season since 2002.

After leading a tying drive earlier in the fourth quarter, Carr hit Michael Crabtree on a 49-yard pass on third-and-9 to help set up Sebastian Janikowski's 23-yard field goal with 1:45 left.

Cam Newton led the Panthers (4-7) into Oakland territory on the final drive. But Greg Olsen dropped a pass on third down that would have put Carolina in field goal range, and Khalil Mack

stripped Newton on a fourth-down sack to seal the win.

The Panthers scored the first 25 points in the second half after Carr left the game when he damaged the little finger on his right hand while fumbling a snap on the second play from scrimmage in the third quarter.

Patriots 22, Jets 17

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Tom Brady tied Peyton Manning for the most wins by a quarterback in NFL history, getting his 200th by throwing a go-ahead 8-yard touchdown pass to Malcolm Mitchell with 1:56 left.

Trailing 17-16 with 5:04 remaining and the ball on the Patriots' 17, Brady led an efficient drive by completing six passes. After James White stretched for 4 yards on fourth-and-4, a 25-yard catch by Chris Hogan put the ball at the 8. Brady then zipped a pass to Mitchell to put the Patriots (9-2) ahead.

A 2-point conversion try by White was initially ruled good, but the call was reversed because the ball didn't cross the goal line — giving the Jets (3-8) a final chance.

But Chris Long hit Ryan Fitzpatrick before he could throw, resulting in a fumble that was recovered by Trey Flowers.

It was the 500th win in franchise history for the Patriots, who became the first original AFL franchise to reach the mark.

Falcons 38, Cardinals 19

In Atlanta, Taylor Gabriel took two short passes for touchdowns as the Atlanta Falcons returned from a bye week to add to Arizona's misery.

Gabriel, cut by the winless Browns before the season, scored on plays of 35 and 25 yards that showed off his speed.

His second score finished the Cardinals, who began the season touted as a Super Bowl contender but have been one of the NFL's most disappointing teams.

The Falcons (7-4) began the day leading the NFC South and moved a step closer to their first playoff berth since 2012. The Cardinals (4-6-1) have lost two straight and three of their past four, putting them in danger of missing the postseason a year after reaching the NFC championship game.

Coach Bruce Arians was on the sideline after falling ill and being briefly hospitalized early in the week, but it did little to inspire his team.

Chargers 21, Texans 13

In Houston, Philip Rivers threw for 242 yards and three touchdowns against the mistake-prone Texans.

Dontrelle Inman had 119 yards receiving and a touchdown to help San Diego (5-6) to the victory.

The Texans (6-5) lost in Houston for the first time this season after winning their first five here. Playing a large part were four turnovers, including three interceptions by Brock Osweiler.

The Chargers were up by four in the fourth quarter when Rivers evaded the rush and delivered a 25-yard pass to Inman. Kareem Jackson was flagged for unnecessary roughness for a helmet-to-helmet hit on the play, leaving San Diego at the 12-yard line. Rivers delivered a touchdown pass to rookie Hunter Henry on the next play to push the lead to 21-10.

Osweiler's second interception came after that when he badly overthrew C.J. Fiedorowicz and Dwight Lowery made the easy grab.

Houston added a field goal with 37 seconds left and recovered an onside kick. But Osweiler's first shot at the

Kansas City Chiefs kicker Cairo Santos (5) celebrates his game winning field goal with teammates during overtime of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016, in Denver.

end zone was knocked down, and the second one was intercepted as time expired.

Titans 27, Bears 21

In Chicago, Marcus Mariota threw for 226 yards and two touchdowns to help Tennessee hang on and beat the depleted Chicago.

The Titans (6-6) gave their playoff hopes a boost, though they watched as Chicago (2-9) cut a 20-point lead to six in the fourth quarter. The Titans moved a half-game out of first place in the AFC South.

Matt Barkley, starting for the injured Jay Cutler, led the late surge. The Bears had a first down at the Tennessee 7 in the final minute when Josh Bellamy dropped a pass in the end zone on first down. Barkley's next three attempts fell incomplete, preserving the win for Tennessee.

Mariota, putting together one of the best seasons ever by a Titans quarterback, came through with another solid performance. The second-year pro completed 15 of 23 passes.

Saints 49, Rams 21

In New Orleans, Drew Brees passed for 310 yards and four touchdowns and Mark Ingram scored twice.

Playing 10 days after being knocked unconscious in a Thursday night loss at Carolina, Ingram rushed for 146 yards on 14 carries, including a 61-yard scamper and a 10-yard touchdown on a fourth-and-1 play. He also scored on a 21-yard screen to the right side of the field, which was wide open as the Rams (4-7) tried to pressure Brees.

Two of Brees' scoring strikes went to rookie Michael Thomas, whose touchdowns of 6 and 21 yards were part of a nine-catch, 108-yard performance. Brees' other touchdowns went to Ingram and Brandon Coleman from 6 yards for New Orleans (5-6).

Saints coach Sean Payton also victimized his former defensive coordinator, Gregg Williams, with some razzle-dazzle that produced a 50-yard touchdown pass from receiver Willie Snead to running back Tim Hightower.

Dolphins 31, 49ers 24

In Miami Gardens, Florida,

Ndamukong Suh tackled Colin Kaepernick 2 yards short of the goal line as time ran out as the Dolphins handed San Francisco a franchise-record 10th consecutive loss.

Ryan Tannehill threw for 285 yards and three scores to compensate for a sputtering Miami ground game.

With the 49ers trailing by seven, Kaepernick moved them from their 38 to the 6 in the final 1:44. But he threw incomplete on first down, and then was tackled from behind by the 305-pound (138 kilogram) Suh on the final play.

The Dolphins (7-4) extended their winning streak to six games, their longest since 2005. Kaepernick passed for three TDs, but the 49ers (1-10) still haven't won since the season opener.

Ravens 19, Bengals 14

In Baltimore, Justin Tucker kicked four field goals as Baltimore shut down the Bengals' depleted offense.

Joe Flacco threw for 234 yards and a touchdown to help Baltimore (6-5) snap a five-game losing streak against the Bengals (3-7-1), whose playoff hopes took another serious blow.

The victory was not assured until Cincinnati quarterback Andy Dalton fumbled when sacked by Elvis Dumervil, and defensive end Lawrence Guy recovered at the Baltimore 21 with 1:05 left and the Ravens up 19-12.

Cincinnati got a safety on the final play when Baltimore punter Sam Koch ran out of the end zone while his blockers intentionally held Cincinnati rushers. A game can end on an offensive penalty.

At this point, the Bengals will need a sensational finish to extend their run of consecutive playoff appearances to six.

Bills 28, Jaguars 21

In Orchard Park, New York, LeSean McCoy scored twice, including a career-best 75-yard run.

Tyrod Taylor's 16-yard touchdown pass to Justin Hunter with 10:46 remaining put the Bills ahead for good during a second half in which the lead changed five times. Taylor also scored on a 7-yard run in helping keep Buffalo in the playoff hunt.

The Bills (6-5) won for the second straight week when trailing at halftime after doing so just once last season. Taylor also produced just the second fourth-quarter comeback of his career.

The Jaguars (2-9) lost for the sixth straight game, their longest skid since opening the 2014 season at 0-6.

Irving, James lead Cavaliers past 76ers



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Kyrie Irving had 19 of his season-high 39 points in the fourth quarter and LeBron James added a triple-double with 26 points, 10 rebounds and 13 assists, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 112-108 comeback victory over the Philadelphia 76ers on Sunday.

Kevin Love chipped in 25 points and 11 rebounds to help the defending champions (13-2) improve to their fourth straight win.

Joel Embiid led seven players in double figures with 22 points for the 76ers, who have lost three straight. Embiid also had nine rebounds, four assists and three blocks.

The Cavaliers never led through the first three quarters, but Irving got hot early in the fourth to put Cleveland in front. He gave Cleveland its first lead on a layup 2:38 into the period and had 10 of the first 13 Cavaliers fourth-quarter points on a variety of jumpers and drives. His layup with 7:51 left gave Cleveland its biggest lead to that point, 90-86.

Love was limited to 28 minutes after receiving stitches for a cut over his right eye sustained early in the first quarter.

Cleveland trailed by as many as 14 points in the first

half. The Cavaliers got as close as 72-70 on James Jones' 3-pointer with 3:53 left in the third quarter. But the 76ers scored nine of the next 10 points, capped by Dario Saric's 3-pointer that made it 81-71. James had four and Love two as the Cavaliers ran off the final six points of the quarter to enter the final period down 81-77.

The Cavs missed their first 14 shots, but Philadelphia couldn't take full advantage and led just 10-2 before James' driving layup with 6:50 left in the first quarter resulted in Cleveland's first field goal.

James and Embiid got into a verbal altercation late in the first quarter. Richard Jefferson was whistled for a foul on Embiid's drive, and James questioned the call. Embiid went toward James' direction, but officials stepped between the players. The incident drew a rise in the crowd.

James provided a couple of first-half highlights, dunking with 6:03 left in the first quarter and then following a missed free throw with a dunk with 1:17 to go in the first half. He has three triple-doubles this season.

Rockets 130, Trail Blazers 114

In Portland, Oregon, James Harden had 38 points and 10



AP
Cleveland Cavaliers' Kyrie Irving (2) goes up for a shot against Philadelphia 76ers' Nik Stauskas (11) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016, in Philadelphia.

Julius Randle and D'Angelo Russell missed another game due to injuries, but the Lakers compensated for the absence of two starters with a balanced offensive effort.

Kent Bazemore scored 21 points and Dwight Howard added 19 points and nine rebounds amid constant boos for the Hawks. They have lost five of six after a 9-2 start to the season.

Nuggets 120, Suns 114

In Phoenix, Wilson Chandler scored 25 points and Jameer Nelson added 21 as Denver held off Phoenix.

Eric Bledsoe led Phoenix with a career-high 35 points. Devin Booker added 30.

The Nuggets led by 20 at the half but Booker and Bledsoe led a rally that cut the lead to three early in the fourth quarter. Denver gained a slightly larger cushion from there before the Suns cut it to four in the final minute but they got no closer.

Booker scored 25 points in the second half, Bledsoe 21.

Mavericks 91, Pelicans 81

In Dallas, Wesley Matthews scored 21 points, including eight during a fourth-quarter rally that gave Dallas the lead for good, as the Mavericks beat New Orleans.

Matthews made a 3-pointer and another basket to give Dallas a 72-71 edge with 5:39 remaining. New Orleans regained the lead on Anthony Davis' two free throws, but Matthews made another 3-pointer to put the Mavericks ahead to stay.

Dallas improved to 3-13, still the NBA's worst record. The Pelicans fell to 6-12.

Harrison Barnes led the Mavericks with 23 points. Davis had 36 points and 13 rebounds.

Bucks 104, Magic 96

In Orlando, Florida, John Henson scored 20 points and Giannis Antetokounmpo added 18 points and nine rebounds to help Milwaukee beat Orlando.

Michael Beasley had 13 points to help the Bucks beat the Magic for the second time in a week.

Evan Fournier led Orlando with 27 points and seven assists. Serge Ibaka scored 19 points, and Nikola Vucevic added 17 points and 16 rebounds.

Denmark holds off challenge to win golf's World Cup

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Denmark fought off a three-pronged attack to win golf's World Cup at Kingston Heath on Sunday.

Soren Kjeldsen and Thorbjorn Olesen held their nerve after a four-shot overnight lead was threatened by China, France and Sweden.

The pair combined superbly in the best-ball format for a closing 6-under 66 to finish on 20-under 268, four shots clear of France (63), China (65) and the United States (66) in a three-way tie for second.

Kjeldsen and Olesen took turns to nail critical birdie putts every time the lead was whittled back.

"Our mental strength is keeping calm and playing our own game. I wasn't too worried, I thought the birdies would come on the back nine and they did," Olesen said.

Chinese duo Ashun Wu and Haotong Li crept within one stroke early on the back nine before Kjeldsen holed a birdie putt to restore the buffer. Victor Dubuisson's birdie at the par-three 15th propelled France to just one shot back. And this time Olesen answered with a 7-foot putt,

playing three holes behind the French, to ward off the leaderboard danger.

While Kjeldsen and Olesen weren't threatened by US pair Rickie Fowler and Jimmy Walker, Sweden's Alex Noren and David Lingmerth did move to within a shot - after firing a brilliant 10-under 62 to eventually finish fifth at 15-under. But nobody could catch the Danes.

Olesen's hot putter delivered birdies at Nos. 13, 14 and 15 to restore the leaderboard buffer. He also rolled in a curling 30-foot birdie putt on the 18th.

"The psychology (of a team) is really interesting to me. When you get a guy like this, on the back nine you feel you want to die for this guy," Kjeldsen said of Olesen. "I've never felt that before and that team thing is amazing."

In golf terms, the Danish pair formed an odd couple. Olesen loves to keep check of leaderboards around the course and Kjeldsen tries to avoid them.

"We play different games, we don't talk much and just

play our shots and that's helpful," Olesen said.

Sweden, who started the fourball final round nine shots back, could only ponder what might have been with a more polished foursomes effort than the tardy third round 73.

"We really played quite solid (on Saturday) and ended up bogeying a couple of the last four holes.

So, 1-over yesterday could have been a couple under and we would have really been in the mix. But finishing on a good note today, we're not going to dwell on the last few days. It has been a fun week," Lingmerth said.

Italy's Francesco Molinari and Matteo Manassero reeled off an 8-under 64, but they were just too far back to get a glimpse of the leaders.

"We gave ourselves a lot of birdie chances and it could have been a really low one. It was a low one with a good finish, so we're happy about that," Manassero said.

"Obviously, Francesco gave me the opportunity to play and we had a lot of fun.



ISPS HANDA
WORLD CUP OF GOLF
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The GSM Masters’ Jerry Ayuyu and Saisei’s Justin Reyes are the early leaders in the batting race, while there is also a tie between the Papa Bears’ Paul Camacho and BSI Aces’ Mel Sakisat for the top spot in the pitching contest in the 2016 Masters Baseball

League. After two games at the Francisco “Tan Ko” Palacios Ballfield, Ayuyu was 6-for-8 at the plate for a batting average of .750. Reyes earned the same mark to tie Ayuyu for the lead in the batting race. Nine other players posted a batting average of at least .500 to make it to the Top 10. The list includes Papa Bears’ Bob Liza-

Two-way tie for batting, pitching lead

ma (.625), the Old Stars’ Jess Mesa (.571), Rubak’s Theo Minor (.571), the Old Stars’ Ben Tagabuel (.571), BSI Aces’ John Acosta (.555), GSM Masters’ Mark Flores (.500), BSI Aces’ Reno Celis (.500), Saisei’s Bern Kileleman (.500), and BSI Aces’ Joe Tenorio (.500). Six other players made it to the leaderboard, which was based on seven or more at bats and after the results of the Nov. 23 games had been tallied.



United Airlines Guam Marathon early bird discount ends Dec. 2

TUMON, Guam—Event organizers for the 2017 United Airlines Guam Marathon (UGM) have announced that the latest early bird discount deadline is Dec. 2. Registration is available online at unitedguammarathon.com.

With new activities in store, UGM is looking forward to welcoming even more participants for the 2017 event. “The recently renamed United Airlines Guam Marathon has new and exciting features for runners to look forward to before and after the race,” said Event Director Ben Ferguson.

“New features include a broader array of activities for runners and the general public at the Håfa Adai Expo. The post race beach party has been renamed the BBQ Beach Party and will feature an entertainment stage on the beach and numerous food and beverage concessions together with additional photo opportunities and the traditional Tumon Bay post race dip. Also new to this year’s event is the creation of a runners perks program entitled Eat. Shop. Run. The program will offer discounts to registered runners at a wide variety

of food and beverage establishments and retail outlets.”

Håfa Adai Expo

UGM Weekend will kick off with the Håfa Adai Expo and Packet Pick Up held on April 7 from 12pm to 6pm and on April 8 from 9am to 6pm. The Håfa Adai Expo serves as the mandatory participant packet pick up location and is open to the general public. Festivities will include a running clinic by 2000 Sydney Games Olympic gold medalist and UGM Ambassador, Naoko Takahashi, sponsor booths, live entertainment, cultural activities, food and beverage concessions, shopping for official UGM and running merchandise and other only on Guam activities.

Eat. Shop. Run.

As part of the 2017 event, the runners perks program will feature a diverse set of shopping incentives and others discounts that all registered runners, visitors and local residents, can enjoy. List of vendor offers and details will be available by January 2017 and will be presented on the event website. Special offers will be avail-

able race week starting April 3, 2017 and will conclude on April 16, 2017, week after the races. Runners can redeem discount offers by simply providing proof of race registration.

The BBQ Beach Party

Runners will also be able to enjoy an all-new BBQ Beach Party after crossing the finish line at the end of their race. The BBQ Beach Party will take place beachside offering participants and spectators a chance to admire the scenic view of Tumon Bay at Governor Joseph F. Flores Memorial Park (Ypao Beach). Along with a live BBQ station, the BBQ Beach Party will also feature a live concert performance, beach games and entertainment, the traditional Tumon Bay post race dip, beachfront photo opportunities, local food and beverage concessions, live cultural entertainment, activities and more! The post race BBQ Beach Party is open to all participants and the general public.

About the United Airlines Guam Marathon

The United Airlines Guam

Marathon (UGM), in its fifth year, is organized by Guam Sports Events Inc., a non-profit organization that hosts annual running and cycling events to promote Guam’s Håfa Adai spirit to grow sports tourism on Guam. The United Airlines Guam Marathon, Guam’s first IAAF approved marathon race, will take place on Sunday, April 9, 2017. Considered Guam’s premier running event, the UAGM includes 5K, 10K, half marathon (13.1 miles) and marathon (26.2 miles) race distances. All courses have been officially certified by the IAAF (International Association of Athletic Federations) and AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races). This designation means that marathon runners may use this as a qualifying event for the Boston Marathon. Complete event details and registration can be found on the official event website at www.unitedguammarathon.com. The UGM is also sponsored by the Guam Visitors Bureau and the Pacific Islands Club. (PR)

FAVORED

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crown. She first downed last year’s U14 winner Malika Miyawaki last Saturday, 6-1, 6-2, and then outclassed Tania Tan in the deciding game last Sunday, 6-4, 7-6 (9) to top the division. Tan, who bowed to Heras in the U16 finale last season, finished second in the girls U18 singles as she earlier

edged Miyawaki in their Friday showdown, 6-4, 6-4.

Meanwhile, the girls U10 and U12 singles divisions also a round-robin format with Anika Camacho Helen Kim emerging as champions.

Kim went perfect in three games to clinch the girls U10 singles title. She started her string of wins last Friday when she shut down Hoo Wang, 6-0, while her second win in simi-

lar scores came last Saturday against Seo Hee Lee. In her third match, Helen Kim was paired against Chae Eun Kim and though the latter gave the former a good fight in last Sunday’s tiff, Helen still prevailed, 6-2.

Lee finished second with her 2-1 record, as she won over Chae Eun Kim, 7-6, and Hoo Wang, 7-5. Chae Eun rounded out the Top 3 with

her lone win recorded against Wang, 8-3.

In the girls U12, Camacho had already secured the division crown as early as last Saturday following her 7-5, 6-3 victory over J.C. Ferrer. Camacho finished the round-robin play with a 2-0 record as she also swept Helen Kim last Friday, 6-3, 6-4. Ferrer defeated Kim, too last Sunday, 6-0, 6-3, to take the runner-up honors.

MP

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snapped last year when TanHoldings U18 won the finals against Matansa, 4-0. MP United lost to Matansa in the semis, 1-3, while TanHoldings edged Paire, 1-0, to advance to the 2015 finale.

In the 2015 title match, MP United drew first blood off Sun Joon Tenorio’s goal in the 19th minute. TanHoldings then evened out the count before the halftime break as Anthony Fruit converted a penalty kick just a few seconds left before the 25-minute first half concluded.

Neither team hit the board in the second half, as both squads held their ground on defense.

MP United and TanHoldings then played in a 10-minute overtime and made numerous attempts to score, but to no avail, forcing the opposing teams to settle their title duel in a shootout for the second straight time.

In the shootout, Fruit gave TanHoldings its first point when his attempt went in to the lower right corner. MP United’s first shooter—Edwin Kim—also converted his shot for the deadlock, while a goal from Alan Hinson put TanHoldings back on top as MP United’s Alex Park’s shot was way too wide to the right (of goalie Christopher Aninzo).

Ryan Relucio, who scored in the penalty shootout last

Wednesday, this time missed as his shot down the center was kicked out by Aninzo and the ball eventually hit the top post before going out. After Relucio’s miss, Tenorio easily drilled in a quick shot to knot the count, 2-all, while another big defensive stop from Aninzo paved the way for an MP United lead. Aninzo pushed the ball out after a quick release from Jonathan Capayas, while Joshua Abagan’s shot rolled into the left corner, giving MP United a 3-2 advantage.

Galarion then attempted last for TanHoldings to tie the match anew, but his conversion did not matter in the end, as Kim delivered the killer blow anew for MP United.

MP United was handed back the perpetual trophy, while Aninzo and Tenorio received the Golden Glove and Golden Boot awards, respectively.

The eventual champion barged into the finals after routing TanHoldings U14 in the semis, 6-0. Tenorio and Michael Lee had a pair of goals apiece in MP United’s victory, while Go Sekiguchi and Eun Syu Hahn chipped in one each. In the other semis pairing, TanHoldings U17 ousted Matansa, 1-0, off Thai-phi Austria’s goal in overtime. Matansa settled for third place following its 2-0 triumph over TanHoldings U14. Justin Achas and Terrance Evan Belcher made the two goals for Matansa.

In the pitching race, both Camacho and Sakisat earned 0.00 ERA after their respective teams completed their first three matches of the season.

Camacho pitched 7.1 innings and gave up no earned run, while Sakisat was flawless in the six innings he worked the mound. Sakisat’s teammate Ben Duenas is at second with a 2.10 ERA, while Old Stars’ Bill Camacho (1.83), Saisei’s Darwin Masaharu (2.33), and GSM Masters’ Juan Diaz (3.66) complete the leaderboard.

Paul Camacho and Sakisat are also ahead in the most strikeouts with eight apiece, while Bill Camacho and Juan Diaz have seven each so far.

The Papa Bears’ Nick Reyes has six Ks.

In other categories, the Old Stars’ James Fleming is on top of both runs scored and triples, while his teammate George David and Justin Reyes are the frontrunners in the doubles and RBIs divisions, respectively.

Fleming is in a tie with Pepi Tenorio in the runs category as they have earned eight each, while in the triples, the former has one so far, the same number that Bill Camacho, Ayuyu, and Mesa have. In the doubles, David is alone at the top with his three, while Reyes’ six RBIs lead the five of Acosta and the four of five other players.

for Villacrusis, and 36.96 seconds for De Jesus in the 50m breaststroke. In the 100m backstroke, 50m butterfly, and 100m and 200m IM, De Jesus’ entry times are 1:24.14, 32.75 seconds, 1:16.36, and 2:53.04.

Villacrusis has the fastest entry times in the 100m and 200m IM events with his 1:10.30 and 2:34.70, respectively, while Welch’s marks are 1:12.76 and 2:38.59.

The Commonwealth swimmers are among the more than 1,000 athletes from 176 FINA-member countries that will see action in the world championships, which Canada will be hosting for the first time.

CNMI

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Welch and De Jesus’ marks read at 27.21 seconds and 29.76 seconds, respectively. In the 100m freestyle, Villacrusis’ entry time is 58.42 seconds, while Welch’s also in the under one-minute mark at 59.25 seconds, and De Jesus’ record is listed as 1:04.90. In the 200m freestyle, Villacrusis, Welch and De Jesus’ entry times are 2:13.11, 2:15.36, and 2:26.15.

In the two breaststroke events, Welch’s entry times in the 50m and 100m are 36.85 seconds and 1:23.29; 36.31 seconds and 1:17.76



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
East Division					Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB	San Antonio	14	3	.824	—
Toronto	10	6	.625		Memphis	11	6	.647	3
Boston	9	7	.563	1	Houston	11	6	.647	3
New York	8	8	.500	2	New Orleans	6	12	.333	8½
Brooklyn	4	12	.250	6	Dallas	3	13	.188	10½
Philadelphia	4	13	.235	6½					
Southeast Division					Northwest Division				
Atlanta	10	7	.588		Oklahoma City	10	8	.556	
Charlotte	9	7	.563	½	Utah	9	8	.529	½
Orlando	6	11	.353	4	Portland	9	10	.474	1½
Washington	5	10	.333	4	Denver	7	10	.412	2½
Miami	5	11	.313	4½	Minnesota	5	11	.313	4
Central Division					Pacific Division				
Cleveland	13	2	.867	—	Golden State	15	2	.882	—
Chicago	10	6	.625	3½	L.A. Clippers	14	4	.778	1½
Indiana	9	9	.500	5½	L.A. Lakers	9	9	.500	6½
Milwaukee	7	8	.467	6	Sacramento	7	10	.412	8
Detroit	8	10	.444	6½	Phoenix	5	13	.278	10½

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE							NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East							East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Dallas	10	1	0	.909	316	213
New England	9	2	0	.818	293	197	N.Y. Giants	8	3	0	.727	231	213
Miami	7	4	0	.636	249	240	Washington	6	4	1	.591	280	264
Buffalo	6	5	0	.545	281	236	Philadelphia	5	5	0	.500	241	186
N.Y. Jets	3	8	0	.273	196	266							
South							South						
Houston	6	5	0	.545	194	236	Atlanta	7	4	0	.636	358	302
Tennessee	6	6	0	.500	308	296	Tampa Bay	6	5	0	.545	249	264
Indianapolis	5	6	0	.455	270	301	New Orleans	5	6	0	.455	334	307
Jacksonville	2	9	0	.182	214	293	Carolina	4	7	0	.364	276	281
North							North						
Baltimore	6	5	0	.545	218	201	Detroit	7	4	0	.636	247	238
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	.545	266	222	Minnesota	6	5	0	.545	218	192
Cincinnati	3	7	1	.318	213	245	Green Bay	4	6	0	.400	247	276
Cleveland	0	12	0	.000	197	352	Chicago	2	9	0	.182	178	264
West							West						
Oakland	9	2	0	.818	307	275	Seattle	7	3	1	.682	224	187
Kansas City	8	3	0	.727	252	214	Arizona	4	6	1	.409	245	228
Denver	7	4	0	.636	266	219	Los Angeles	4	7	0	.364	170	236
San Diego	5	6	0	.455	313	291	San Francisco	1	10	0	.091	228	344

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

32nd Annual Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Run

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The lead pack heads out of the course during last Thursday's 32nd Annual Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Run.



Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, right, runs along with Get Fit CNMI members.



The fourth wave of runners head out to the 4.2-mile course.



Mark Boyer-Sablan is about to complete his first Turkey Trot race.



Maverick Itibus slows down as he approaches the finish line.



Janet King waves to the crowd before finishing the race.



Kelvin Fital makes his way to the finish line.



Jerry Diaz nears completion of the uphill race.



**Chiefs beat
Broncos 30-27
in overtime**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Irving, James
lead Cavaliers
past 76ers**

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28 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Favored players triumph in girls singles



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Isabel Heras returns to Tania Tan during their girls U18 singles game in the 8th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Top-ranked Conatsu Kaga and Isabel Heras lived up to high expectations after ruling their respective divisions in the 8th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

Conatsu had no love lost to her youngest sister Coume as the former swept their title match in the girls U14 singles, 6-4, 6-1. Conatsu took the finals berth at

the top half of the draw after eliminating Riko Ojima, 6-0, 6-1. Ojima advanced to the semis following a walkover victory against Hyunmin Cho. Coume, on the other hand, defeated Maria Gregoire, 6-3, 6-1, to arrange a title duel with her older sister in the girls U14 singles.

In the girls U18 singles, former U16 champion Isabel Heras was unbeaten in the round-robin competition to bag the division

**See FAVORED on
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MP United reclaims FA Cup



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United Football Club's Joshua Abragan, front, prevents TanHoldings FC's Louie Calayag from reaching the ball during the second half of their title game in the 2016 NMIFA FA Challenge Cup held last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club and TanHoldings' second clash in less than a week had the same plot and same ending.



Three days after beating TanHoldings in a shootout, 4-3, and winning the boys U17 division championship in 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League, MP United did it again en route to topping the 2016 NMIFA FA Challenge Cup held last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

James Kim, who made the sixth attempt for MP United and hit the dagger in their close victory over TanHoldings in the playoff match for the division championship last Wednesday, found himself in a similar nerve-wracking situation after a goal from Joshua Galarion tied the match at 3-all. Kim went on to kick in a volley to deliver anew for MP United and give back to the club the FA Cup.

MP United ruled the annual tournament from 2011 to 2014, but had its streak

See MP on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Angel De Jesus, seen here doing the butterfly stroke of the 200m medley relay race in the NMISF Opening Meet held last month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi, will leave Saipan for Canada to represent the CNMI in the 13th FINA World Swimming Championships.

CNMI Swim Team off to Canada

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Swim Team will leave this weekend to participate in the 13th FINA World Swimming Championships that will be held in Windsor, Canada.

Swimmers Salofi Welch, Christian Villacrusis, and Angel De Jesus and coach Jacoby Winkfield will depart Saipan this Saturday, while Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation official Carol Lynn Pierce will travel to Canada this Friday to attend the Sports Medicine

Conference. The conference, along with three other side events, will be held at the Caesar Windsor Resort and Convention Center from Dec. 3 to 5, while the swimming competitions will run from Dec. 6 to 11 at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre in Windsor, Ontario.

"The swimming races will be held in 25-meter pools (short course). Times in a short course are usually faster than the long course (50-meter pool). The swimmers will be putting forth their best efforts, however, NMISF does not tally short course times

so, unfortunately no chance of smashing records," Pierce said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Welch and Villacrusis will have nine events each—the 50m, 100, and 200m freestyle, 50m and 100m breaststroke, 50m and 100m butterfly, and 100m and 200m individual medley. De Jesus will race in eight events—all three distance sin the freestyle and two in the IM, plus the 100m backstroke, 50m breaststroke, and 50m butterfly.

Villacrusis holds the best entry time in the 50m freestyle with his 26.64 seconds, while

See CNMI on Page 26

